Arthur Miall
18 Bouverie St. E.C.

THE

Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT, AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XXVI.—NEW SERIES, No. 1054.] LONDON: WEDNESDAY, JAN. 17, 1866. PRICE { UNSTAMPED .. 5d. / STAMPED..... 6d.

LONDON CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL-BUILDING SOCIETY,

7, BLOMFIELD-STREET, FINSBURY.

The ANNUAL MEETING of SUBSCRIBERS will be held at the SOCIETY'S OFFICE, on TUESDAY, January 23rd, at Four o'Clock in the Afternoon.

The USUAL SOCIAL MEETING will take place in the Evening, at the CONGREGATIONAL LIBRARY,

EUSEBIUS SMITH, Esq., Treasurer, in the Chair.

The under-mentioned Gentlemen are expected to address the Meeting:—

Rev. G. MARTIN, of New Cross.
Subject: "Chapel-Building—a Comprehensive Work."

Rev. C. DUKES, A.M., of Dalston.
Subject: "Chapel-Building—an Urgent Necessity."

Rev. A. McMILLAN, of Bayswater.
Subject: "Chapel-Building—the Spirit in which to do the Work."

Rev. J. S. PEARSALL, of Pimlico.
Subject: "Chapel-Building—Encouragements.

Tea and Coffee will be served at Half-past Five o'Clock, and the business commence at Half-past Six o'Clock.

The Committee will be gratified by the attendance of Ladies.

SYSTEMATIC BENEFICENCE SOCIETY.

Objects: Giving without Stint—Loving without Sect—Labouring without Fainting.

The SIXTH ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING will (D.V) be held in the FREE TRADE HALL, MANCHESTER, on TUESDAY EVENING, 23rd January, 1866,

ROBERT BARBOUR, Esq.,
Will take the Chair at Half-past Six o'clock.

Brief Addresses will be delivered on Pauperism, Ignorance, and Vice at Home; Superstition, Infidelity, and Idolatry Abroad; and the Duty and Means of overtaking and abolishing them, by—

The Rev. John Garratt, D.D.
The Rev. J. Chippendale, M.A.
The Rev. J. Gwyther.
The Rev. J. A. Macfadyen, M.A.
The Rev. Arthur Mursell.
The Rev. James Clapham.
The Rev. G. Bowden.
The Rev. A. M. Symington.
The Rev. W. O. Simpson.
The Rev. J. Paterson.
The Rev. W. M'Caw.
The Rev. Dr. Cather.

And other gentlemen, of various denominations.

A Collection will be made to defray expenses.

Tickets of Admission free, at the Booksellers', City of Manchester Omnibus Office, Churches and Chapels, Bible Society, and City Mission Offices, and of City Missionaries.

N.B.—Private carriages and cabs to be ordered for a quarter-past nine, and to be drawn up in front of the Hall. To obviate the effect of inclement weather, a friend provides Omnibuses to convey, free of charge, those who attend the Meeting (showing special Tickets, which may be had along with Meeting Tickets), to the following places: Longsight, Rusholme, City-road, Old Trafford, Pendleton, Broughton, Cheetham Hill, and Oldham-road. They will draw up in the order named, opposite the Hall, exactly at a quarter-past nine, and leave at half-past nine p.m.

PREPARATORY SERMONS on SUNDAY, the 21st January, at Morning Service:—

AT MORNING SERVICE.

Sunday, 14th Jan., Bridgewater-street Wesleyan Chapel; Rev. W. DAVISON.
" 14th " Ebenezer Wesleyan Chapel; Rev. Dr. CATHER.

AT EVENING SERVICE.

" 14th " Presbyterian Church; Rev. Dr. CATHER.

AT MORNING SERVICE.

" 21st " St. Ann's-square, St. Ann's Church; Rev. JAMES BARDSLEY, M.A.
" 21st " Rusholme, Birch Church; Rev. Canon ANSON, M.A.
" 21st " Rusholme, Wesleyan Chapel; Rev. T. B. GOODWIN.
" 21st " Greenheys, Christ Church; Rev. J. GARRETT, D.D.
" 21st " Chorlton-road Congregational Church; Rev. J. A. MACFAYDEN, M.A.
" 21st " City-road Wesleyan Church; Rev. C. POVAH.
" 21st " Do., St. Mark's Church; Rev. W. ARCHER, M.A.
" 21st " Stretford-road, St. Paul's Church; Rev. T. DANIELS, M.A.
" 21st " Stretford-rd, Zion Congregational Church; Rev. J. GWYTHER.
" 21st " Oxford-road Wesleyan Chapel; Rev. G. BOWDEN.
" 21st " Oxford-road Presbyterian Church; Rev. J. PATERSON.
" 21st " Do., do.; Rev. A. MUNRO, D.D.
" 21st " Rumford-street United Presbyterian Church; Rev. W. M'KERROW, D.D.
" 21st " Grosvenor-street Baptist Church; Rev. Rev. ARTHUR MURSELL.
" 21st " Knott Mill Congregational Church; Rev. J. RAWLINSON.
" 21st " Cheetham-road Presbyterian Church: Rev. W. M'CAW.
" 21st " Cheetham Hill, St. Luke's Church; Rev. J. CHIPPENDALE, M.A.
" 21st " Cheetham Hill Wesleyan Chapel; Rev. J. CLAPHAM.

AT EVENING SERVICE.

" 21st " Irwell-street Wesleyan Chapel; Rev. W. O. SIMPSON.
" 21st " Cheetham Hill, Royal Mount Wesleyan Chapel; Rev. J. CLAPHAM.
" 21st " Radnor-street Wesleyan Chapel; Rev. JAMES ALLEN.

N.B.—Besides the above, nearly as many more will be preached and not advertised.

THE JAMAICA COMMITTEE.

CHARLES BUXTON, M.P., Chairman.
P. A. TAYLOR, M.P., Treasurer.
F. W. CHESSON, Hon. Secretary.

John Bright, M.P.
John Stuart Mill, M.P.
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Edward Baines, M.P.
Isaac Holden, M.P.
Duncan McLaren, M.P.
Professor Cairnes.
Professor Goldwin Smith.
Professor F. W. Newman.
Professor J. J. Tayler.
Professor Beesly.
Sir James Watts.
Henry Wm. Wilberforce.
Godfrey Lushington.
Edward Miall.
Humphrey Sandwith, C.B., D.C.L.
John Cropper, Liverpool.
Rev. W. Arthur, M.A.
Jacob Bright, Manchester.
Frederick Baines, Leeds.
Rev. G. W. Conder, Manchester,
Wilfrid Lawson.
Rev. Dr. Raleigh.
William Crosfield, Liverpool.
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John Priestman, Bradford.
Francis Taylor, Manchester.
Samuel Watts, Manchester.
A. W. Paulton.
J. H. Estcourt.
Robert Kell, Bradford.
S. C. Kell, Bradford.
W. Shaen.
J. M. Ludlow.
Rev. G. Gould, Norwich.
A. McArthur.
Hugh Mason, Ashton-under-Lyne.
T. C. Ryley, Wigan.
Edward Alexander, jun., Glasgow.
William Anderson, LL.D., Glasgow.
James Harvey.
Chas. E. Rawlings, Liverpool.
Colonel Salwey, Egham.
Benjamin Scott, Chamberlain of London.
Thomas Thomasson, Bolton.

And many others.

The above and numerous other influential gentlemen have consented to form a Committee to promote the following important objects:—

1. To demand a searching Parliamentary inquiry into the past and present social, legislative, and political condition of Jamaica, and to promote measures for the future good government of the Colony.

2. To watch the progress of the official and Parliamentary inquiries (should both be granted), and to take such further action as may be deemed necessary.

3 To provide Mrs. Gordon and others who may have unjustly suffered from the proceedings of the civil and military authorities in Jamaica with competent legal assistance to conduct their several cases before the Commission of Inquiry.

The Committee has already despatched two members of the Bar to Jamaica, with ample instructions for their guidance, and has taken other action of an important kind. It will be sufficiently obvious that arrangements of this nature cannot be made without a very large outlay. It is uncertain how long the inquiry may continue, or how much evidence it may be necessary to collect; but in order fully to carry out the important objects for which the Committee has been organised, it is indispensable that ample funds should be placed at its disposal.

Subscriptions should be forwarded to the Treasurer, Aubrey House, Notting hill; to Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, and Co., Lombard-street ("Jamaica Committee" account); or to the Honorary Secretary, 65, Fleet-street, London.

ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL,

MAITLAND PARK, HAVERSTOCK-HILL, N.W.

Office: 56, Ludgate-hill, E.C.

The 108th ANNUAL GENERAL COURT of GOVERNORS will be held at the LONDON TAVERN, BISHOPSGATE-STREET, E.C., on THURSDAY, January 25th, 1866, to receive the Annual Report from the Board of the General Committee and the Auditors' Report, and to appoint the several Officers for the year ensuing.

The Chair will be taken by the President,
JOHN REMINGTON MILLS, ESQ., M.P.,
At Eleven o'clock precisely.

JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary.

January 17th, 1866.

The next Election will take place in July, when Forty Children will be admitted.

COLLEGE HOUSE SCHOOL, QUEEN'S-SQUARE, BLACKPOOL.

Principal, Mr. JAMES CROMPTON, assisted by efficient Masters.

In addition to careful religious and moral training, this Establishment offers at moderate terms, a thorough English and commercial education, along with the classics, modern languages, &c. The pupils enjoy the advantages of sea air and bathing, and the comforts of home.

References: Rev. James Spence, D.D., London; Rev. Alex. Raleigh, D.D., London; Rev. Andrew Reed, B.A., St. Leonard's, Sussex.

Prospectuses on application.

STATIONERY, PRINTING, ACCOUNT BOOKS,

and every requisite for the Counting-house. Qualities and prices will compare advantageously with any house in the trade. The Forms and Account Books required under "THE COMPANIES' ACT, 1862," kept in stock. Share Certificates Engraved and Printed. Official Seals Designed and Executed.—ASH and FLINT, 49, Fleet-street, City, E.C., and opposite the Railway Stations, London-bridge, S.E

MISS GRIFFITHS' ESTABLISHMENT,

TAUNTON.—The Pupils are expected to RE-ASSEMBLE on FRIDAY, January 26th.

For Prospectus, address, Wilton Lodge, Taunton.

TETTENHALL PROPRIETARY SCHOOL.

MIDLAND COUNTIES PROPRIETARY SCHOOL COMPANY (LIMITED).

HEAD MASTER: Rev. ROBERT HALLEY, M.A.

This School furnishes, on moderate terms, a sound and liberal Education, both Classical and Commercial, with a religious training in harmony with the principles held by Evangelical Nonconformists.

The NEXT TERM will COMMENCE on the 25th January. Applications for admission should be addressed to the Head Master, who will supply any information that may be required.

TERMS:

For Pupils entering under 14 years of age, 40 guineas.
For Pupils entering above 14 years of age, 50 guineas.

These terms will be increased Ten Guineas for pupils entering later than August of the present year.

Tettenhall is well known as a most healthy and picturesque village, quite out of the mining district, and within three miles of the railway-stations at Wolverhampton.

EDUCATION for YOUNG LADIES,

LANSDOWNE HOUSE, LONDON-ROAD, LEICESTER.

(Situation high and healthy, at the outskirts of the town.)

Conducted by the Misses MIALL, assisted by Professors, and French and English Resident Governesses.—A thoroughly solid English education, under the immediate superintendence of the Principals; with all the necessary accomplishments—French, German, Latin, Music, Singing, Drawing, &c. Occasional Scientific Lectures from Professors. Special attention given to moral and religious training; and the comforts and advantages of a refined home provided.

References to the parents of the pupils.

School will RE-OPEN on the 31st JANUARY.

PREPARATORY SCHOOL for YOUNG GENTLEMEN, ST. LEONARD'S-ON-SEA.

Mrs. DUFF (wife of the Rev. Charles Duff, late of Stebbing, Essex), receives a limited number of YOUNG GENTLEMEN to Board and Educate.

Terms, Thirty Guineas per Annum. Prospectuses forwarded on application.

References kindly permitted to many Ministers and Gentlemen in different parts of the country.

School Duties will be resumed (D.V.) on the 23rd inst.

EDUCATION.—SOUTH-COAST.—ESTABLISHMENT for YOUNG GENTLEMEN, HEATHFIELD HOUSE, PARKSTONE, between POOLE and BOURNEMOUTH.

This Establishment, conducted by Rev. WALTER GILL, aided by Competent Masters, will reopen (D.V.) on THURSDAY, January 25.

Terms moderate. Reference to parents of pupils. Prospectus on application.

THE VALE ACADEMY, RAMSGATE.

Principal, Mr. M. JACKSON.

In this Establishment, which has recently been much Enlarged, an EDUCATION of the first order is given in English, Latin, Greek, French, German, and Mathematics. Twenty-two of the Pupils have now passed the Oxford Local Examinations, three of whom in first, and nine in second-class honours.

The Pupils will RE-ASSEMBLE on TUESDAY, January 30.

COMMERCIAL SCHOOL, CRANFORD HALL, near HOUNSLOW, MIDDLESEX.

PRINCIPAL:—Mr. VERNEY.

This school is adapted to the requirements of the Sons of Respectable Tradesmen and others. The Premises are First-class, spacious, elevated, and healthy; the rooms are numerous and lofty; there is an excellent well-ventilated school-room and class-rooms; a large playground, lawn, and gardens; with every other convenience.

The education is sound, practical, and commercial; with or without French, Piano, Surveying, &c.

Mr. VERNEY has for upwards of Twenty Years been actively engaged in the pleasing and responsible work of training the young, and is favoured with numerous references.

TERMS PER QUARTER:

For Pupils over Twelve years of age, Seven Guineas.
For Pupils under Twelve years of age, Six Guineas.
(Terms made inclusive, when preferred.)

Cranford Hall School is on the Bath-road, twelve miles rom Hyde-park Corner, and near the Hounslow, Feltham, Southall, and West Drayton Stations, at either of which Mr. Verney's conveyance meets Parents and Pupils.

VICTORIA VILLA, FINCHLEY, N.

Mrs. WASHINGTON WILKS will RE-OPEN her SCHOOL on February 1st, when she will be prepared to receive a limited number of YOUNG LADIES as Boarders.

Detailed Prospectuses sent on application.

Terms, from Forty to Fifty Guineas per annum.

DISSENTERS' PROPRIETARY-SCHOOL, TAUNTON.

PRINCIPAL—Rev. W. H. GRIFFITH, M.A.

The PUPILS will RE-ASSEMBLE on FRIDAY, January 26th.

Prospectuses may be obtained by application to the Principal, or to the Secretary, Rev. J. S. Underwood.

CAMBRIDGE HOUSE SCHOOL, HAGLEY-ROAD, EDGBASTON, near BIRMINGHAM.

Conducted by Mr. F. EWEN,

Will RE-OPEN on MONDAY, January 29,

NONCONFORMIST ONE PENNY NEWSPAPER

HURST COURT, ORE, HASTINGS.

The Pupils both of the Senior and Preparatory Classes will RE-ASSEMBLE on TUESDAY, the 30th instant.

MARTIN REED, LL.D.

YOUNG CHILDREN to BOARD.—The Advertiser has room for one or two MOTHERLESS CHILDREN or ORPHANS. A Home, with kind and religious training. Good References given and required. Terms moderate.

M. W., 2, Percy-terrace, Plumstead, S.E.

PRIORY HOUSE, BARNSBURY-STREET, ISLINGTON.

Mrs. and Miss COOPER expect their PUPILS to RE-ASSEMBLE on THURSDAY, January 24.

Prospectuses and References on application.

THEOBALDS, CHESHUNT, N.—The Rev. OSWALD JACKSON begs to announce that his Pupils will RE-ASSEMBLE on TUESDAY, the 30th inst.

HORNSEY-RISE COLLEGE SCHOOL, 10, VICTORIA-ROAD, HORNSEY.

Conducted by Mr. G. HARDY, assisted by Eminent Professors, offers a sound English and Commercial Education; combined with careful Moral and Religious Training. Mathematics, Classics, and Modern Languages. Number of boarders limited.

References: The Hon. and Rev. B. W. Noel, M.A.; Revs. Henry Allon, Alexander Raleigh, D.D., and J. Corbin; and Hugh Owen, Esq. Prospectuses forwarded.

PALMER HOUSE, HOLLOWAY, LONDON.

Principals—Rev. A. STEWART and SON.

Our aim is to supply a sound Classical, Mathematical, and Commercial Education by a careful culture of the Intellectual Faculties, accompanied by a studious discipline of the Moral Feelings, and a strict regard to Religious Principles.

The healthiness of the locality has been proved by a residence of eighteen years.

Every effort is made to secure the domestic comfort and happiness of the Pupils.

Reference to Ministers of various denominations throughout the Kingdom, to former Pupils, and to Parents of those now in the School.

Pupils received from seven years of age and upwards.

Inclusive Terms, from Thirty to Forty Guineas.

The School will RE-OPEN on MONDAY, the 15th of January.

TUDOR HALL LADIES' COLLEGE, FOREST HILL, SYDENHAM,

Is confidently commended to the notice of Parents in quest of a Comfortable Home, with an accomplished Education for their daughters. Careful Religious Training is combined with the highest Mental Culture.

PROFESSORS.

English Literature	MRS. C. L. BALFOUR.
Art	DR. C. H. DRESSER.
Globes and Natural Science..	R. QUINTON, ESQ.
Music—Theory, &c.	JOHN BLOCKLEY, ESQ.
Do. Piano, &c.	HERR LOUIS DICHL.
Singing	G. W. MARTIN, ESQ.
Drawing and Painting	R. W. BUSS, ESQ.
Geology and Biblical Studies..	REV. J. W. TODD.
French Language	DR. MANDROW.
German Language	DR. SCHINZEL.

Referees—Parents of Pupils and Clergymen.

For particulars address the Principal, Mrs. TODD.

WHITTINGTON HOUSE, FOREST-HILL, SYDENHAM.—The Rev. H. J. CHANCELLOR receives young gentlemen to board and educate. The course of instruction includes the subjects required for the Oxford Local Examinations. Masters in Music, Drawing, and Modern Languages. Referees—Sir F. G. Moon, Bart., E. Hamilton, Esq., M.P., Professor Fawcett, Esq., M.P., Rev. S. Martin, J. Spence, D.D., Newman Hall, LL.B., W. J. Unwin, LL.D., R. D. Wilson, W. J. Todd, &c. &c. Other references, with terms, sent on application.

MILL-HILL SCHOOL, HENDON, MIDDLESEX, N.W.

This School will be RE-OPENED on WEDNESDAY, 31st January, 1866.

Application for Prospectuses and Admission to be made to the Rev. G. D. Bartlet, M.A., Head Master, at the school; or to the Rev. G. Smith, D.D., Congregational Library, Blomfield-street, London.

CLIFTON HOUSE, LAWRIE-PARK-ROAD, NORWOOD.

Mrs. HERBERT SKEATS (daughter of Mr. Edward Miall), being about to Establish MORNING CLASSES for YOUNG LADIES at her own residence, avails herself of the opportunity to inform her friends that she will receive TWO or THREE BOARDERS into her Family, where they will enjoy all the comfort and watchful oversight given to her own Children, and may either take Lessons at home under the best Masters, or, if preferred, may attend the Classes at the Crystal Palace. Clifton House is situated in a highly salubrious neighbourhood, is easily accessible by rail from all parts of London, and overlooks the Gardens of the Crystal Palace; and Mrs. S. has no hesitation in assuring her Friends that the Young Ladies entrusted to her care will realise all the comforts of home life with the discipline and advantages of School.

The Next Term will COMMENCE on January 30th.

Prospectuses on application.

CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOL, LEWISHAM.—WANTED, a JUNIOR ASSISTANT TEACHER. He must be a member of a Christian church, and capable of conducting the usual elementary branches of a good English Education, also of taking charge of the school in the absence of the other Masters. Satisfactory references required, and some previous experience indispensable. Salary 30l. with board and lodging.

Apply at once by letter, post paid, to the Rev. J. Viney, Hon. Secretary, Highgate, N.

TO PARENTS and GUARDIANS.—WANTED, a respectable, well-conducted YOUTH, as an APPRENTICE to the WOOLLEN DRAPERY and GENERAL OUTFITTING BUSINESS. Also an IMPROVER.

Apply to J. Hamlyn, 50 and 51, North-street, Taunton.

WANTED, a SITUATION as LADY'S MAID, or YOUNG LADIES' MAID. Thoroughly understands Dressmaking, &c. Age 25. Three years' Character. Country preferred.

Address, M., care of Mr. E. Long, Chaxhill, near Gloucester.

Homœopathic Practitioners, and the Medical Profession generally, recommend Cocoa as being the most healthful of all beverages. When the doctrine of homœopathy was first introduced into this country, there were to be obtained no preparations of cocoa either attractive to the taste or acceptable to the stomach; the nut was either supplied in the crude state, or so unskilfully manufactured as to obtain little notice. J. Epps, of London, homœopathic chemist, was induced in the year 1839 to turn his attention to this subject, and at length succeeded, with the assistance of elaborate machinery, in being the first to produce an article pure in its composition, and so refined by the perfect trituration it receives in the process it passes through, as to be most acceptable to the delicate stomach. As a

BREAKFAST BEVERAGE

for general use, Epps's Cocoa is distinguished as invigorating, with a grateful smoothness and delicious aroma. Dr. Hassall, in his work, "Food and its Adulterations," says, "Cocoa contains a great variety of important nutritive principles; every ingredient necessary to the growth and sustenance of the body." Again, "As a nutritive, cocoa stands very much higher than either coffee or tea." Directions:—Two teaspoonfuls of the powder in a breakfast cup, filled up with boiling water or milk. Secured in tin-lined ½lb., ¼lb., and 1lb. labelled packets, and sold at 1s. 6d. per lb. by grocers, confectioners, and chemists. Each packet is labelled, "J. Epps, Homœopathic Chemist, 112, Great Russell-street; 170, Piccadilly; and 48, Threadneedle street. Manufactory, 398, Euston-road."

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

WILKINSON and KIDD, Saddlers to Her Majesty and H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, have Removed their Establishment from the Corner of Park-street, Oxford-street, to 5, Hanover-square, W. (adjoining the Queen's Concert Rooms). Established 1786.

CROYDON (near West Croydon Station).—FAMILY COMFORTS and a FAMILY HOME suitable for a CITY GENTLEMAN requiring Partial Board and Lodging; or for a LADY requiring Entire Board and Lodging The House is good and well Furnished, with large Garden. Terms moderate. References given and required.

Address, Z., "Nonconformist" Office, Bouverie-street, London, E.C.

AGENTS WANTED for a well-known MANURE, which commands a ready sale, is highly recommended by Customers for several years and sold carriage free. Liberal terms given.

Address, B. C., 5, Tavistock-row, Covent-garden, London.

HOSPITAL for DISEASES of the SKIN, BLACKFRIARS.

Out Patients are seen at the following days and hours:—Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, at Three o'Clock; Tuesdays and Fridays at Two o'Clock. New Patients must apply for Tickets at least an hour before the above times. Pecuniary assistance is most urgently needed. Contributions of Old Rags for Bandages will be most thankfully received. Medicines may be procured any Morning before Ten o'Clock.

ALFRED S. RICHARDS, Secretary.

GENERAL LIFE and FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

Notice is hereby given, that the Fifty-fifth HALF-YEARLY DIVIDEND, at the rate of Six per Cent. per Annum, declared on the 10th instant, is payable to the Shareholders at the Office of the Company, No. 62, King William-street, City, between the hours of Ten and Four.

By order of the Board,

THOMAS PRICE, Secretary.

January 15, 1866.

SOVEREIGN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY. (Founded 1845, and empowered by special Act of Parliament.)

The following figures show an increase quite unprecedented in the history of the Company:—

The amount assured in 1862 was ..	..	£151,065
Ditto	.. 1863 „ ..	.. 194,152
Ditto	.. 1864 „ ..	.. 266,450

Agents required in unrepresented places. Apply to the Branch Manager.

J. P. BOURNE, 9, Flora-place, Plymouth.

BANK OF NEW ZEALAND.

BANKERS TO THE GENERAL GOVERNMENT OF NEW ZEALAND, THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS OF AUCKLAND, CANTERBURY, OTAGO, &c.

PAID-UP CAPITAL, £500,000. RESERVE FUND, £133,000.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES IN NEW ZEALAND.

Auckland	Kaiapoi	Picton	Mount Ida
Russell	Lyttelton	Timaru	Queenstown
Blenheim	Napier	Wanganui	Tokomairiro
Christchurch	Nelson	Wellington	Waikouaiti
Dunedin	Newcastle	Dunstan	Waitahuna
Hokitika	New Plymouth	Dunstan Creek	Wetherstone
Invercargill	Oamaru	Manuherikia	

This Bank GRANTS DRAFTS on any of the above-named places, and transacts every description of Banking business connected with New Zealand, on the most favourable terms.

The London Office RECEIVES DEPOSITS at interest for fixed periods, on terms which may be learned on application.

F. LARKWORTHY, Managing Director.

No. 50, Old Broad-street, London, E.C.

PERPETUAL INVESTMENT and BUILDING SOCIETY,

37, NEW BRIDGE-STREET, BLACKFRIARS.

MONEY,

IN LARGE OR SMALL SUMS,

Ready to be ADVANCED upon the Security of Freehold, Copyhold, and Leasehold Property, repayable either in one sum or by periodical instalments.

The amount advanced since May, 1851, exceeds

HALF A MILLION STERLING.

Prospectuses and Forms of Application may be had upon application, or will be sent by post.

JOHN EDWARD TRESIDDER, Secretary.

MR. COOKE BAINES, RAILWAY COMPENSATION VALUER, &c., 106, Cheapside, E.C.

Fire and Life Assurances effected. Auction Sales and Valuations for Probate undertaken.

SIX CARTES de VISITE, 1s. 8d.

SIX CARTE PORTRAITS, Twenty Stamps.

SIX CARTES 1s. 8d. post free.—City Company, No. 18, Queen-street, Cheapside.

SIX CARTES, 1s. 8d.; Twelve, 2s. 8d.; Twenty-four, 5s. CITY COMPANY, 18, Queen-street, Cheapside, London. Send Carte, with stamps, and Perfect Copies returned with original.—W. HENDERSON, Manager.

THE CHERUBS FLOATING in the AIR, after SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS.—This New Optical Illusion (J. H. Pepper and T. Tobin, joint inventors), this day at one o'clock, quarter to Three o'Clock, and quarter-past Seven o'Clock at the ROYAL POLYTECHNIC. Admission to the whole of the Entertainments, 1s.—Open from Twelve till Five, and Seven till Ten.

NOVELTIES for the NEW YEAR.—WILL O' THE WISP, or DRAWING-ROOM LIGHTNING, Fifty Flashes for Seven Stamps. Improved SERPENTS' EGGS, Five for Thirteen Stamps. "Truly marvellous."—Times. Stereoscopes, Slides, and Cartes in endless variety. Portraits taken daily.—Frederic Jones, 146, Oxford-street, W.

CRAMER'S GUINEA MUSICAL SUBSCRIPTION' entitles Subscribers to select and retain as their own property SHEET MUSIC published by CRAMER AND CO. to the value of FIVE GUINEAS. This new system is offered to the Public under the following limitations, viz.:—

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(4.) Music selected by Subscribers cannot be exchanged or returned.

N.B.—CRAMER and Co. desire to have it clearly understood that their New System allows Subscribers to keep, as their own property, Five Guineas' worth of their Sheet Music, calculated at the marked price.

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

CLERICAL AUTHORITY IN INTERPRETING THE RUBRIC.

THE Bishop of London, it is said—upon what authority we have been unable to ascertain—contemplates introducing a measure into the House of Lords next Session having for its object the putting some limitation on the excessive development of ritualism in the Church of England. Many of our readers will be aware that in certain churches in the metropolis and elsewhere, incumbents have taken upon themselves the responsibility of initiating rather startling changes in the celebration of Divine worship. Proceeding on the assumption that whatever ritual observances are not expressly forbidden by the Rubric are therefore allowed, if not actually sanctioned, they have restored from mediæval and Roman Catholic authority the use of sacerdotal vestments, practices, and rites which, whatever else may be urged in their favour, cannot be said to have been contemplated by the English Reformers, nor to have received the imprimatur of British law.

We are anxious in dealing with the question thus brought under our notice to guard ourselves against being understood to express any opinion on the merits or demerits of these innovations. We have formed, it is true, a definite judgment regarding them, and are quite ready, on a fitting occasion, to express it unhesitatingly. But we are extremely desirous in the present instance of touching upon another and, as it seems to us, a much broader question, and we believe this cannot be satisfactorily done unless it is kept quite clear of other and totally independent issues. What we want to ascertain is, how far the law of England permits or ought to permit private and individual clerical legislation to regulate the modes in which God is to be worshipped in the Established Church—how much has really been settled by the Legislature, and how much left to the discretion of the clergyman—whether, in point of fact or of right, the weight of authority which the State can give to any religious system is meant to be given to the conclusions which, within certain somewhat ill-defined limits, each clergyman may, conscientiously or otherwise, adopt for his own guidance.

Until quite recently we had entertained the idea that the forms used in assemblies for worship under the authority of law were each and all prescribed by law. It has always been urged upon us by the members of the Church of England that a fixed standard for the regulation of public devotion had this one advantage at least, that it secured order, and that those who accepted that standard knew they would be secure against being made to participate in the whims and vagaries of individual clerics. The room left for the indulgence of a wayward freedom was commonly supposed to be so strait, and the whole routine of service to have been so minutely prescribed, that it never until quite recently entered into anyone's head that Divine service celebrated according to the rites and ceremonies of the Church of England as by law established could offer a field for the exercise of clerical originality. It seems, however, that this was all a mistake. We have learned from the highest judicial tribunal that in matters of *faith* the clergy are free in regard to every tenet upon which they have not bound themselves by their subscription—and now it is assumed, by a reasonable analogy, that in matters of *practice* they are fettered by nothing but the literal directions of the Rubric. What they are bidden to do they must do, of course, but there is a vast range of possible practice on which the Rubric is silent, and over that whole range they may do as they please.

We do not see very clearly what other result could be expected from the ecclesiastical system of the country as it now stands. The Book of Common Prayer, including the Rubric, and the Articles of Religion, have been converted into statute law, and, of course, presumed offences against it must be established by evidence, the quality or even admissibility of which must be determined by legal maxims and usages. It would, no doubt, be a violation of the statute for a clergyman to substitute a prayer of his own composing for any one of those which he is commanded to read—but would he be amenable to any rebuke—legal rebuke, we mean—for riding up the aisle of the church to the communion table on horseback? Such an act is not forbidden by the Rubric, and might easily be justified on the ground of symbolic significance. We have heard of a clergyman taking a couple of pointers with him into the reading-desk, though we confess the story is of a time and a state of things long gone by. We can even imagine a dramatic, as we have now a pantomimic, performance in the Church at Christmas and at Easter, and, if the present canon of clerical practice is sound, we see nothing whatever in the Book of Common Prayer which would render it illegal, and we are far from convinced that the Judicial Committee would condemn it as such.

Now, it is clear enough that this is not the result, nor anything approximating to the result, which our forefathers intended by the legal establishment of the Church, or which the present generation means by upholding it. Liberty of conscience is unquestionably a privilege, nay a right, of primary importance—but we must learn to distinguish between liberty of conscience and between a State license to outrage the consciences of others. The laity of the Church of England will have something to say in this matter as well as the clergy. They, too, have their place in the system—they, too, have their convictions—and they may justly complain that the Establishment to which they lend, each in his sphere, the authority of law, was not originally designed, and shall not be perverted, to provide stage room for æsthetic exercises, for the airing of ecclesiastical millinery, or for sidelong movements towards dogmas that the nation has renounced. They may be wise or unwise, right or wrong, in their theological views—but of one thing we may be tolerably sure, that so soon as they find the Church Establishment getting fairly out of hand, and treated as the private inheritance of a practically irresponsible priesthood, they will cease to regard it as an institution to be maintained, and will give complete liberty of conscience to the clergy by annulling the contract which makes them servants of the State.

Of course, nothing of this sort is to be anticipated at the hands of the Bishop of London. He, it may be supposed, will only seek to define some things relating to the celebration of Divine worship which are now left undefined, or, perhaps, to lay down other rules for the interpretation of the Rubric than those which appear to have the sanction of our Courts of Law. We take it for granted that he has well considered what he is about to do, and that he will feel his way to the probabilities of success or defeat. But he may depend upon it that he will raise a storm which it will require the whole authority of the people to keep under control. We shall probably have a repetition, in an intenser degree, of the ecclesiastical whirlwind that swept over the land in opposition to Cardinal Wiseman and the Papal aggression. Only, in this instance, it will take another direction, and will probably put an end, for the present, to ritualistic development. This, perhaps, will not disturb the Bishop of London, nor the vast majority of Churchmen who will support him. But he knows as well as we can tell him that religious passion, once roused and let loose, never contents itself with doing just that, and that only, which is required of it—and, unless we are much mistaken, the enthusiasm indispensable to the Bishop's success against High Churchism, will do a great deal more than was originally set down for it to do. We shall see.

ECCLESIASTICAL NOTES.

DR. HARVEY GOODWIN, Dean of Ely—a clergyman whose name gives immediate assurance of good faith and honest intention—has come before the public with a solution of the "Conscience Clause" difficulty. The Dean is of opinion that a clause might be drawn up which should answer the purpose which the Committee of Privy Council have in view, and which, at the same time, should be generally acceptable to Church schools. He has made an attempt at drawing up such a clause, the result of which is as follows:—

Conscience Clause as Proposed.

The said committee shall be bound to make from time to time such orders as shall seem to them necessary and sufficient for the admission into the school of children whose parents do not conform to the Church of England as by law established; but such orders shall in no way interfere with the full education in the principles of the Established Church of those children whose parents are in communion with the same; and it shall be assumed that a child admitted to the school is to be educated in the principles of the Established Church, unless an objection be made by the parents in writing.

The Dean must be a very simple man—is he or is he not?—if he believes that such a clause as this would satisfy Dissenters; but it is to be remarked that he does not profess to attempt to satisfy Dissenters, but only the Privy Council Committee and Churchmen. We suppose, however,—granting that a Dissenter has any right to make a supposition on the subject—that it will be hardly possible to ignore the views of Dissenters in such a matter. We therefore state what we think are reasonable objections to the Dean's formula.

With the Dean, its principal recommendation is its indefiniteness, and he expresses the opinion, that such indefiniteness is an essential characteristic of a satisfactory formula. The Dean, however, looks at this matter from one point of view; we from another. It may be very convenient for the managers of a national school to have to do with an indefinite formula, which may be squeezed or expanded according to circumstances, but it may be, and is sure to be, very inconvenient for a Dissenting parent to have to do with such a formula. The Dean says that he takes refuge in the indefiniteness of a form which shall describe the purpose intended, with the view of leaving "the mode of effecting that purpose to the right feeling of the committee of the school." Is the Dean joking? or is he so accustomed to sarcasm that he is not conscious when he uses it? It is because it has been found, from experience, that these things can *not* be left to the "right feeling" of school committees, and because it has been found that they have no right feeling in the matter, that a Conscience Clause has become necessary. The indefiniteness of this clause is, therefore, to us a principal objection to it. We submit, also, that both common sense and sound policy require that there should be no uncertainty in the future definition of the rights of Dissenters as

respects State-aided schools. It would be the height of absurdity to attempt to settle this question, and yet, practically, to leave it where it is now, viz., in the hands of local school committees.

We have, however, two other objections to the Dean's formula. The first is that it omits all reference to school committees requiring attendance at the public worship of the Established Church as a condition of admittance to day-school instruction. The Dean makes this omission purposely, because he thinks that a child should be compelled to attend worship of some kind, and because he thinks that there "might be" a worship of some kind—say Mormonism—which it would be necessary to exclude. Advantage is taken of this very theoretical difficulty to leave things as they are—they, of course, being in favour of the Established Church. The next objection is that Nonconformist parents are required to put their views "in writing," just as it was attempted to require them in the matter of the Census and of Church-rate exemption. To which we reply that we do not recognise the force of the Church's pretensions in such matters. We don't see why we should be put to such trouble, and we *will not* be put to such trouble. The Dean's argument is as broad as it is long, and therefore as long as it is broad. If the Dean, on reflection, approves of it, he will see no reason why Church children should not be compelled to bring with them written requests that they may be taught the Church formularies and sent to church on Sundays. The Dean seems to forget that what we hold to is the equality of all in the eye of the State, which has the regulation of such matters. If one set of children, therefore, are to bring written requests, the other set of children must do the same—aye, must and shall do it, if written requests are to be brought in at all.

We have thus stated what seem to us to be obvious objections to Dean Goodwin's plan; but the Dean says that he is not wedded to his own words. We at once make response and say that we are not wedded to the words of the present Conscience Clause. We are afraid that it might prove to be impossible to construct a clause which should satisfy all parties, but we do not see why the attempt should not be made. Who, however, is to initiate such an attempt we cannot say. Perhaps it would be most wise to make it in a private manner.

The *Guardian*, apropos of Lord Shaftesbury's recent offensive references, has an article on "Amicable Dissenters." For those Dissenters whom Lord Shaftesbury described to be amongst his "best and dearest" friends, the *Guardian* entertains evidently a most infinitesimal degree of respect. It describes them as persons of sentimental feelings, of no fixed notions of authority or creed, and capable of migrating from one denomination to another with perplexing facility. The *Guardian*, however, adds that all Dissenters are not so amicable, and that it is the political Dissenters who are the real exponents of the mind of Dissent. There is a description of the proselytising action of such persons which, according to our own experience, has no foundation in fact. We quote the description, and ask if our own experience is not that of all our readers:—

> Lord Shaftesbury himself, indeed, does not deny that there are political Dissenters, who aim at the overthrow of the Church. We must take leave to add that these, and not the personal friends of whom he speaks so warmly, are the real exponents of the mind of Dissent. Its *animus* is political; its life and energy depend upon hostility to the Church. The sects unite for this one purpose. Where this purpose is absent, they are continually undergoing a process of disintegration, constantly forming and re-forming themselves into new societies around every variety of personal centre that happens to arise. Baptist and Independent forget their differences when the Church is to be opposed; Salem Chapel ceases to be distracted by parties when all the energies of its flock are devoted to the attack on a common foe. Nor is this hostility at all of a restrained or moderate character. We have known—and that, too, in the parish of an active and popular clergyman—Dissenting agents watch the road at the bottom of the church hill, and warn young Churchmen to turn aside from "the path to hell"! We have known Baptist teachers insult the district visitors of the Church at the bedsides of the sick. We have heard them express their wish that every Prayer-book were committed to the flames as ardently as any Spanish Inquisitor, not without the addition of something like a sigh that the compilers of the Prayer-book had not shared the same righteous fate. We could mention Dissenting chapels where the great staple of the preaching is vituperation of the Church, and bitter controversy forms the favourite topic of their periodical tea-parties. We could describe the arts by which the most promising and religious members of the Church, especially among the young, are persuaded to attend the ministrations of her assailants, and by degrees are alienated from her fold. And such experiences, we are persuaded, could be contributed by almost every one of our readers who has had much to do with the practical operations of Dissent.

Dr. Parker's lectures are receiving a most complimentary attention at the hands of clergymen. At Bradford the Rev. H. A. Mitton, an Evangelical clergyman, has replied to him. Mr. Mitton's lecture was an honest attempt to justify the position of the Evangelical clergy in the Church,—in which he was as successful as he might be supposed to be, and no more. If a rejoinder should be deemed advisable, we suggest the employment of a High-Church clergyman. Mr. Mitton, with great parade, referred to the charity in the Church, and evidently thought that he was exercising great charity himself when he repeatedly invoked the Almighty to forgive Dr. Parker all his "slanders," all his "scorn" and "all the religious bitterness" which he exhibited, especially in the presence of "many sweet innocent children"! Did unctuous hate ever go farther than this? "God forgive him," repeated Mr. Mitton, and then went on as follows:—

> Is Doctor Parker's visit to Bradford an accident or cursory thing? No; it is merely part of an organised scheme for so visiting all the parishes of England. Since he has been here, he has delivered the same lecture in Sunderland. He is at this moment saying the same thing in Hull. As a prominent member of the Liberation Society, he is raising a fund of 1,500*l.*, in order to prosecute three objects. First, to circulate 500,000 pamphlets, to stir up the people's minds against the Church; secondly, to publish weekly in some metropolitan newspaper, an article, with the same object, to be sent gratuitously to members of Parliament, &c.; thirdly, to visit every rural district and village, to excite the minds of the inhabitants in the same way against the Church, which, in most cases, is the only religious body to be found therein. I say, can fanaticism and bigotry go further than this? Think of that last part. There is to be no distinction. It does not matter how excellent the clergyman. The crusade is against the Church. The poor unlettered men who have, from year to year, worshipped at the church, and there heard the Word of Life, there been educated, and have educated their children, and have buried their dead, they are to be stirred up, and told that all this is a lie and a sham; that their minister is a perjured traitor, and their Prayer-book an offence against God. I do not appeal to Churchmen on this matter, I appeal to Nonconformists; those that are men of prayer, men of God—and there is a goodly number of them in this town—I appeal to them as Christians, as men to whom the Apostle has said—"If ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another," to say to the man who would do this—"We will have none of you, you know not which spirit you are of." I appeal also to you as men of sense. The Church in the rural districts might by such attempts suffer some damage. But depend upon it, this work will in the end recoil upon its authors in a manner at which they will stand aghast. I know—I don't say I believe or fancy—that many of the best Nonconformists are filled with disgust at these things, and are beginning to ask themselves whether a religionism which declares its holiest work to be in destroying the faith of others, is that which will comfort them in the time of tribulation, in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment. My Nonconformist brethren, it may be that even to the end of this earthly life, we shall continue to seek our common Father after our own modes.

And next day probably, you could find Mr. Mitton like other clergymen, hounding on his parishioners for a Church-rate, sanctioning the sale of a bedridden woman's bed to pay for the washing of his surplice; selling a farmer's stock for tithe, and dragging "sweet innocent" Nonconformist children to church on Sundays. It must be peculiarly pleasant for any clergyman to *speak* in deprecation of Christians "biting and devouring" one another. This week, we notice, the Rev. G. D. Massingham, of Church Defence notoriety, replies to Mr. Parker, at Wigan, in two lectures.

The Church Institution of Rochdale has had its annual meeting, at which was read a letter from the Central Institution in London, describing at length the new programme of the Liberation Society, "compared with which," says the Secretary, "all their previous attacks will be as nothing." Perhaps, however, we cannot do better than give this loud note of alarm:—

> The Church Institution, 4, Trafalgar-square, W.C.,
> January 1, 1866.
>
> Sir,—The increasing activity of that portion of the community whose aim is to abolish the Church of England as the State Church calls for special efforts from those who feel that to it, chief of all, does England owe her greatness, and that, entwined as it is with the habits and customs—the memories and traditions—the social life—the very language—of the English people, it cannot be uprooted without leaving a void that the aftergrowth of centuries will neither fill up nor conceal. The Society for the Liberation of Religion from State Patronage and Control are about to commence an onslaught against our Church as compared to which all their previous attacks will be as nothing. A series of lectures is to be given by their ablest men, to urge an aggressive policy on the part of Nonconformists, and to sow the seeds of discontent and dissension in all parts of the kingdom. Every town and village is to be deluged with their pamphlets and handbills, of which during the last two years alone they boast of having distributed upwards of 280,000. They are prepared to make a large increase in the gratuitous issue of their monthly paper, the *Liberator*, both among Conformists and Nonconformists, and to press for its being placed on the table of all reading-rooms of mechanics' and other institutions. They are offering a prize of 50*l.* for a work especially adapted for inculcating the principles of democracy and political Dissent in the minds of our growing youth. To meet this increased exertion they have raised a sum of upwards of 15,000*l.* (out of a proposed sum of 25,000*l.*), to be spent in the course of the next five years, so that they can fairly calculate on having at their disposal an annual amount of 9,000*l.* or 10,000*l.*, as their ordinary annual subscriptions are something like 5,000*l.* The committee of the Church Institute are most anxious to induce Churchmen to avail themselves of the various means which the institution is able to offer to counteract this baneful influence, and to refute the fallacies and misstatements contained in their publications. The appointed lecturer of the institution is ready at once to attend meetings in any part of the country, and there address himself to those points in our Church's system which are attacked by the itinerant agents of the Liberation Society. The attention of the clergy and Church laity of our large manufacturing and other towns is particularly called to the importance of at once availing themselves of our offer; as it is in such neighbourhoods that the enemies of the Church are most busily at work, and with the greatest chance of success, if not met by due efforts on our side. The Church Institution is prepared to issue gratuitously a supply of publications, referring to and refuting the statements made by our opponents in their papers; and applications will be at once considered, and replied to either in the form of pamphlets or short papers, according to the circumstances of each case. I am desired to express the hope that you will at once proceed to call the attention of the leading Churchmen in your town to this letter, and that you may induce them to concur in an application to the committee for the immediate services of the lecturer of the institution. Those services will be given, so far as the limited means at the disposal of the committee permit them, gratuitously.

Nothing particular was said on this appeal excepting by Dr. Molesworth, who referred to the society as an "organised conspiracy," instituted for the purpose of "calumniating the Church, misrepresenting her doctrines, reviling her priests, and doing all they could to destroy, pull down, and injure the Church by every possible means." Dr. Molesworth proceeded to reproach the society with not keeping the "bond of union" amongst Christians. We need scarcely say that the Society has its own views on this matter, and that it would probably consider those persons who talk about "bonds of union," and yet uphold a Church Establishment, as guilty either of hypocrisy or inconceivable inconsistency. The Rochdale proceedings ended with the not very cheering announcement that the Church Institution had fifty fewer members than last year, and that its finances were in "a miserable state."

We direct attention to the letter of a Church clergyman at Wigan on the tone taken by clergymen generally with reference to the Jamaica massacres. We can understand how an intelligent member of the Church of England should deeply regret this, and see in it one of the causes of the Church's increasing decay. If there are generally two sides to all questions, it is a misfortune for the Church that her clergy should, as a body, always take the side of injustice.

CHURCH-RATE DECISIONS.

ARCHES COURT.—JAN. 15.

(Before the Right Hon. Dr. Lushington.)

EDWARDS, VILLAUN V. HATTON.—CHURCH-RATES.

His Lordship gave judgment in this case, which raised an important question on Church-rates, and started a novel proposition, that the defendant was underrated. The case had been argued by the Queen's Advocate and Mr. Swabey on the part of the plaintiffs, the churchwardens of Mattishall, Norfolk, and by Dr. Deane, Q.C., and Dr. Tristram for the defendant, one of the ratepayers. The question was as to 6s. 8d., being a rate of one penny in the pound, and the allegation of the defendant was that his property was worth more than that to which it had been assessed. It was argued that he could not be aggrieved from the fact that he was underrated, but it might be that other inhabitants were rated on a lower scale to him, and therefore he might be aggrieved. His lordship went through the case, and said he could not say that the rate was unequal and unjust, and therefore the judgment would be for the plaintiffs, the churchwardens. All the proceedings were about "six shillings and eightpence."

Dr. Deane, Q.C., said it was the principle involved, not the interest in the amount. (A laugh.)

The Queen's Advocate thought the interest was apparent; it was to get rid of Church-rates altogether.

The Court pronounced sentence in favour of the plaintiffs, and condemned the defendant in the costs of the proceedings.

BARNES V. GRANT.

This was another Church-rate case, and judgment given by the Court.

The Dean of Arches said the plaintiff was the churchwarden of Kettleburgh, in Suffolk, and the defendant, Mr. Grant, a maltster. The rate in question was one of 7d. in the pound, made in June, 1863, for the year 1863, to Easter, 1864. The sum demanded of Mr. Grant was in the whole 1*l.* 13s. 5½d. There was no dispute that in form the rate was properly made, but the ground of impeachment was that the assessment on which the rate was based was unequal and unjust. It appeared from the evidence of Mr. Barnes, the churchwarden, that the valuation which was the foundation of the Church-rate was made originally in 1839, and that in 1849 it underwent a uniform reduction throughout at the rate of nine per cent., occasioning a total reduction amounting to 184*l.* 17s. 6d. per annum, and that it was revised every six months. The Rev. Mr. Turner, the clergyman of the parish, stated that since he had been in the habit of attending the meetings, and had been chairman, they had gone over every six months all the property of the parish, and if any property was either deterio-

rated in value or increased, it was always considered in the assessment and an alteration made. Mr. Barnes also gave evidence to the same effect. It was true that, so far as land was concerned, no account was taken of any change of value that might have arisen, but then, Mr. Barnes said, as to the increase of value, it had been so imperceptible that it could "hardly be seen without putting your spectacles on." Mr. Turner, who had been rector since 1840, stated that in general land in the parish remained at the same value as it did twenty-five years ago, and he also stated that the rentals had not varied very much in that period. Mr. Turner said there had been very little buying and selling in the parish, but on the whole the land had looked upward. It was now perhaps stationary, and the present state of affairs might probably turn the scale the other way. Kettleburgh was a small agricultural parish extending over 1,400 acres, almost all arable land, with little or no house property, and with a population of not more than 35,000. It was situated in a purely agricultural district, and there were no special circumstances as to mills, railways, canals, and manufactories, likely to cause any great or unequal increase in the value of the property. The result of the evidence was that the valuation upon which the rate was made was an old one; that no special necessity had arisen for making a new general valuation that the old valuation had been revised every six months in full vestry, and corrected in every particular; that seemed to require correction; that the old assessment, as revised, was the basis of the poor-rate so late as April, 1863. The defendant had produced no direct evidence showing by actual instances that the old valuation so revised was incorrect, for with regard to the Chequers Inn, held by Mr. Stocking, the less said about that the better for the defendant. If, then, the case remained on that point there would not have been the slightest ground for questioning the equality of the assessment. But the defendant would prove the inaccuracy of the old assessment by contrasting it in detail with a new assessment for the poor-rate made under the Union Assessment Committee Act, 1862. The result of the comparison showed numerous differences between the two assessments. In his judgment in the previous case he had already stated that a poor-rate assessment was not by law a conclusive proof of the equality of a Church-rate assessment: it was simply evidence open to exception by either party, and entitled to no more weight than that which, upon consideration of all the circumstances, it might seem to deserve. He had also pointed out that a presumption must always exist in favour of the accuracy of a valuation made under the Union Assessment Committee Act, 1862, by reason of the statutory safeguards by which the process of making such valuation was surrounded. In two respects the defendant stood upon a better footing than the defendant in the preceding case. In making the new assessment the provisions of the Union Assessment Committee Act, 1862, seemed to have been complied with. The basis taken for estimating the annual value was not the actual rent, but the rent at which the properties might reasonably be let. His Lordship, after referring to the evidence of the Rev. Mr. Turner, proceeded to say that the assessment seemed to be satisfactory to all parties; there had been no appeal whatever from Kettleburgh to the Quarter Sessions, and Mr. Turner said he was perfectly satisfied with the new assessment. The new valuation list, under the Union Assessment Committee Act, though not acted upon for the poor-rate of Kettleburgh till after the making of the Church-rate now in dispute, was in existence at the time of the Church-rate. After reciting the rates made, the learned judge said the circumstances he had mentioned created a presumption in favour of the accuracy of the new assessment, and he wished to do full justice to them; they increased the difficulty of the plaintiff in supporting the accuracy of the old assessment. But it must be remembered that the plaintiff at the time of making the Church-rate had no reason for suspecting the accuracy of the old assessment beyond the fact that it differed from the new. The old assessment had been long tried and never disputed, the new assessment had not been tried and it was in no way legally incumbent upon the parish to adopt it for the purpose of making the Church-rate. No direct evidence had been given of the inaccuracy of the old assessment. The defendant, in effect, simply produced the new assessment, showed that it differed from the old, and at once asked the Court to disallow the rate. The Court would decline to disturb a rate unless it received conclusive proof that the assessment was unequal, and the mere production of another assessment could not be accepted as such conclusive proof. The judgment of the Court would, therefore, be for the plaintiff with costs.

Mr. Crosse, as proctor for the defendants in both cases, gave notice of appeal to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.

Order accordingly.

Dr. Deane, Q.C., and Dr. Swabey were for the plaintiff in this case; and Dr. Tristram (Mr. E. C. Clarkson with him), for the defendant.

In both cases judgment was directed to be entered for the plaintiffs, the churchwardens.

THE POSITION OF THE EVANGELICAL CLERGY.

(From the *Bradford Observer*.)

On Tuesday evening, in St. George's Hall, the Rev. H. A. Mitton, M.A., of Heaton, delivered a lecture on "The Position of the Evangelical Clergy in reference to the Book of Common Prayer." The special circumstance which called forth the lecture, it will be remembered, was the first lecture delivered by the Rev. Dr. Parker, on "Nonconformity, and the Book of Common Prayer." At the end of Dr. Parker's lecture, Mr. Mitton proposed to ask certain questions, but, at the suggestion of Dr. Parker, who handed over to him his manuscript for the purpose, he determined to deliver a lecture in justification of his position as an "Evangelical clergyman." The audience was large. John Rand, Esq., occupied the chair. The proceedings were opened with prayer.

The CHAIRMAN offered some introductory observations. He expressed the conviction that the Church of England was a national blessing, and said that there was no body of men in this kingdom with whom the ministers of the Church of England may not be compared for integrity of principle, for personal piety, for intellectual endowments, or an earnest desire to be the means, in the hands of God, to make known the blessings of Christ's salvation to the people committed to their care. He, therefore, stood there an unflinching and devoted member and lover of the Church of his fathers. But he could also thankfully hold out the hand of Christian fellowship to those who dissented from her communion, and who held with those of that Church the leading doctrines of their holy religion. (Hear, hear.) Nay, individually, nothing gave him greater pleasure than to co-operate with all the lay and ministerial representatives of those who dissented from the Church of England, whenever the opportunity was offered for doing it—whether in spreading the knowledge of salvation by the circulation of God's Word, or other publications with that Word. It afforded him delight and pleasure to find that there was common ground on which they could all meet that loved the Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity. (Hear.)

The Rev. H. A. MITTON, M.A. (who, upon the whole, met with a favourable reception, though on two or three occasions there were expressions of adverse opinions on the part of the audience), in introducing his subject, adverted to its great importance, and said that he was not going to mince words, or pretend to feelings which he had not. Dr. Parker should not find him one of those milk-and-water brethren to whom he had alluded, and for whom he expressed so much contempt. He intended honestly and openly to fight him, then and afterwards, until one of them could fight no more. He had brought against the Evangelical clergy charges of immorality and dishonesty. The work and position of the Evangelical clergy were conspicuous, and it was of the highest importance that their position should not be ambiguous. If the charges continually brought against them could be substantiated, it would undoubtedly be their duty, as honest men, to quit the Church; but, on the other hand, the lecturer held that, so incapable were those charges of being substantiated, that he claimed for the clergy not merely toleration, but stood up to declare and prove, that their position was thoroughly intelligible and consistent throughout. Dr. Parker's charges against the Prayer-book amounted to saying that the doctrines of the Church of England were scarcely, if at all, different from the doctrines of the Romish Church. Under such a charge he might, at the outset of his remarks, express some curiosity on the object and effect of the Reformation. In the days of Mary did "the noble army of martyrs" perish for doctrines differing but in name from those of the corrupted Church they abjured? It was easy, however, to see the drift of certain charges now made by certain Nonconformists against the clergy, for the work of the clergy was the most effectual barrier to the Church against the political attacks made upon it. In themselves, these attacks were unworthy of notice—and so were their authors—but, reiterated as they were, in the ears of honest people who had neither time nor means to inquire into the subject, it was well, once for all, to answer them, and expose the mischievous designs of the men who made them. Having made these remarks, Mr. Mitton proceeded to notice the charges brought, as he said, in the most unseemly language, against the clergy and the Prayer-book. He considered it dishonest to represent the position of the clergy at this time as the same as that of the Puritan divines in 1662. The latter had, in addition to the Subscription, to abjure the Solemn League and Covenant, to which they were bound by the most sacred ties. That undoubtedly was the cause of the ejectment or resignation of the great majority of them, and in support of this position Mr. Mitton quoted largely from the works of contemporary authors. Having done this, he examined in detail Dr. Parker's objections to the Baptismal offices, Confirmation, the Visitation of the Sick, and the Burial of the Dead; and the whole of these objections, he considered, the evidence he adduced showed, were based upon a partial statement, and by this principle of interpretation the Bible itself might be shown to contain the most pernicious errors. If, however, in the Bible one passage was interpreted by another, why not so in the Prayer-book? (Hear, hear.) The lecturer next dwelt on what he held the remarkable inconsistencies in Dr. Parker's statements; and he further charged him with the wilful suppression of the whole case in many instances. A man, he considered, who proposed to deal with so weighty a subject as the doctrine of the Church of England had no excuse for ignorance on any point connected with the Prayer-book, &c. In one instance of "misrepresentation" which the lecturer adduced, he said that Dr. Parker had conveyed the impression to the audience that in no case after private baptism were sponsors required for infants. The contrary, however, was the fact. In case of the recovery from sickness, the infant was required to be brought to church, and though it was not re-baptized, by its sponsors it did "promise and vow" those things which, in the case of persons living to commit actual sin, were essential to salvation. The lecturer next proceeded to examine what he called the various fallacies contained in Dr. Parker's statements and arguments. Dr. Parker had quoted as the authoritative voice of the Church, a few private writers whose opinions were of no weight whatever, and either ignored, or had never sought for the true interpretation; and the lecturer instanced the works of Dr. Goode, Dean of Ripon, and the recent work of Dr. Blakeney, of Birkenhead, as contrary proofs, impossible, as he said, to refute, that the doctrine of the Reformers and that of the modern Evangelical clergy were identical. In dealing with the objections to the Burial Service, Mr. Mitton first noticed what had been said of the exclusion from that service of unbaptized persons, and in connection also with those who had committed suicide, or who were excommunicated. Dr. Parker had drawn a dismal picture of the silent burial of a little unbaptized infant, who, he contended, was thus pronounced doomed to eternal misery. The idea, however, was absurd, and scarcely called for answer, but yet, he said, the very same thing in principle was done amongst Dissenters. The most moral and respectable member of the Church of England would be refused participation in the Lord's Supper by Baptists, on the ground that he was not a member of their body; while a gross criminal would be refused by the same persons, whether a member or no, on the ground of his crime. Would not, then, a Churchman have a right to say, judging from this, that he evidently was considered by the Baptists as bad, morally, as the criminal; or that they thought he had no participation in the benefits of Christ's death, just because he was not a joined member of their society? Now, the Church of England was a society having her own rules. One of them was that baptism, being a positive command of Christ, was indispensable to a participation in her outward privileges; yet even this rule was liberally interpreted, inasmuch as the baptism of any Nonconformist church was accepted as a title to the Church burial service. But, with regard to that service itself, even many Churchmen seemed to consider the current objections to it as insuperable. It must be admitted that the practice of the Church was bad, in that the service was rendered almost indiscriminately; but, then, with the present practice they had nothing to do, as Dr. Parker's own words were, he "dealt with the Prayer-book as an authoritative record," and not with the practice of the clergy; and this, therefore, decided the matter. The Rubric stated that no excommunicated persons were to have the service read over them. When the Prayer-book was compiled every person whose life was outwardly inconsistent with his Christian profession was either excommunicated, or liable to be so. The Prayer-book then clearly intended this service only for those who were true Christians, or whose outward professions would lead to that conclusion; and in this way, should any grossly immoral person be brought for burial, the clergyman, were the case known beforehand, would in all probability obtain leave of his bishop to omit certain words in the service—a permission which the bishop had power to grant. If not, in such a case he would be acting more in the spirit of the Prayer-book to omit those words than to read them. Let it be remembered, however, that the bad practice to which he had alluded could not long continue, as the minds of the best Churchmen were fully awake to the subject, though the revival of excommunication was impossible, owing to the enormous increase of the population; and, in any case, he (the lecturer) considered such a revival as undesirable. (Hear, hear.) In all probability, however, some rule would shortly be enacted in the Church which should make it impossible for any immoral person to obtain after death the privileges of the burial service as it now stands. Having proceeded thus far with his task, Mr. Mitton considered the objections to the visitation of the sick service. The principle here, he said, was the same—partial statement. Attention was concentrated on a few words, while the context was ignored. With regard to absolution, that word was so connected in the minds of most people with the grossness of Romanism, that there was a danger of forgetting that there was a Gospel absolution—or power of declaring forgiveness of sins—without doubt committed by Christ to His ministers. This was not peculiar to the Apostles. They had especial powers committed to them over men's bodies, but not over their souls. Now, as then, it was the blessed privilege of Christ's ambassadors to declare every broken and contrite heart absolved from sin; and let those who heard him carefully read the whole visitation service, and then see whether it were possible to imagine that their mere assent to the Creed, a bare confession of sin, and liberality to the poor, was considered enough for absolution. Let it also be remembered that, should any clergymen scruple to use this service through fear of misleading an ignorant mind, it was, according to the sixty-seventh canon, expressly left optional with them. After glancing at the objections to the confirmation service—the very fact of which rite, the lecturer contended, was sufficient to refute Dr. Parker's statement that the Church's doctrine was that of salvation by water—Mr. Mitton recapitulated the substance of his argument, which he held to establish that all the four services dealt with were clearly conditional, and that it was thus they were accepted by the Evangelical clergy. He then noticed what he regarded as Dr. Parker's reticence as to the Thirty-nine Articles. It was said that the Articles were Evangelical, and the office Romish. For a moment let this be supposed to be the case. It was a common practice now to decry the Evangelical clergy, and to lavish all manner of praise on their High-Church brethren,

while at least common justice required that they should all be termed perjured traitors together. If the Evangelical clergy could claim the Articles—the authoritative exposition of the Church's doctrine—while the High-Churchmen could claim only the offices, whose *status* was the best? But the saying was an absurd one; and if the arguments already used, and which had been drawn from the offices themselves, were worth anything, it needed no refutation, since the audience could see that the Articles and the offices were perfectly harmonious. Let it also, in this conjunction, be remembered that the very same men who compiled the Articles gave their present shape to the offices, formally approved them, and declared that all things "were removed from them which could nourish superstition." The rev. lecturer next alluded to the celebrated Gorham case, the judgment then pronounced, and the subsequent admission of Mr. Maskell and other High-Churchmen; and also alluded to the alteration made last session in the terms of the subscription required from clergymen to the Prayer-book; and he observed of the latter that the alteration, little as it was known, amounted to no less than a peaceful revolution as regarded the Church. Mr. Mitton, after this, proceeded to notice what he designated as some of the minor charges and statements made by Dr. Parker, in a humorous style, and concluded with the following appeal to Nonconformists:—"I do not appeal to Churchmen on this matter. I appeal to Nonconformists: those that are men of prayer—men of God—and there is a goodly number of them in this town. I appeal to them as Christians—as men to whom the Apostle has said, 'If ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another'—to say to the man who would do this, 'We will have none of you—you know not what spirit you are of.' I appeal also to you as men of sense. The Church in the rural districts might by such attempts suffer some damage. But depend upon it this work will in the end recoil upon its authors in a manner at which they will stand aghast. In know—I don't say I believe or fancy—I know that many of the best Nonconformists are filled with disgust at these things, and are beginning to ask themselves whether a religionism which declares its holiest work to be in destroying the faith of others, is that which will comfort them in the time of tribulation, in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment. My Nonconformist brethren, it may be that even to the end of this earthly life we shall continue to seek our common Father after our own modes? But do let us seek to observe the admirable rule of St. Augustine:—'In essentials, unity; in doubtful points, liberty; in all things, charity.' I would beseech you, before attempting to pronounce judgment on the Prayer-book, to examine carefully; not to turn at once to the traditionally offensive passages which are so continually brought up to prove false doctrine, but to see how one part harmonises with another part. And if some passage appear to you of doubtful orthodoxy, consider well whether it is the Prayer-book or yourself that is at fault; whether your range of theology may not be confined to some express doctrines of Scripture, ignoring all others, and whether the Prayer-book, by apparent inconsistencies here and there, is not really following in this the Bible, and saying in effect, 'All Scripture is given by inspiration of God.' And now, my friends, I have done. Dr. Parker has, at the end of his own lecture, cried out, eloquently enough, for light—'light, light—more light—light as the summer morning—light as the summer noon-day.' To that prayer and cry let us all add our fervent 'Amen.' But let us remember that light is given unto him who, in the meek and lowly spirit of his Lord, shall go in his own station, and in his own degree shall endeavour still to re-echo in this dark world the song of the angelic host, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, and good will towards men." Amen. (Applause).

Mr. W. RAND moved that the hearty thanks of the assembly should be given to Mr. Henry A. Mitton for his impartial and candid lecture. The Rev. H. R. DOWNGAN seconded the motion, which was carried.

RITUALISM IN THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

(From the *Daily News*.)

It is commonly rumoured that an attempt is to be made in the coming session of Parliament to induce the Legislature to take some measures for restraining the excessive development of ritualism in the Church of England. Last year the Bishop of London expressed himself strongly upon the subject in the House of Lords, and since then he has several times taken occasion to rebuke the excesses of some of the priests of his diocese. It is now said that he will introduce a bill in the House of Lords to remove all doubt as to the meaning of the rubrics, and make the duty of the clergy clear and unmistakable. The subject is one of great difficulty, and we will venture to add of great importance. While legislation for the Church is entirely suspended, changes in its modes of worship, involving changes of doctrine, are freely made by individual clergymen, who acknowledge no more responsibility in the matter to any public authority than if the buildings in which they minister were their own property, or had been furnished for the convenience of a sect. The venerated bishops and doctors of the Reformation would not be a little astonished if they could enter an Anglo-Catholic church in these latter days. Suppose one of them to have been present last Christmas Day at one of half a dozen London churches that might be named, and to have witnessed the administration of the Holy Communion. One of the first things he would learn is that the Lord's Supper is now commonly spoken of as the Mass. He would see a procession in which he might distinguish a number of officers unknown to the Reformed Church, but reminding him of many things which that Church had been at great cost and pains to put away. First, there would be thurifers in scarlet cassocks and lace-fringed cottas swinging their censers; next would follow the bearer of the incense-boat, similarly attired; acolytes, choirmen, and choir-boys would follow, bearing the banner of our Lord, the banner of the Presentation, and the banner of the Blessed Virgin; then would come the celebrant priest, with the deacon and subdeacon, decked with gorgeous albs, chasubles, dalmatics, tunicles, glittering with green and gold and embroidery. If he had patience to remain he would see the simple elements of bread and wine—no longer the expressive memorials of a great historical act, the source of all our hopes—receive actual adoration as the very body and soul of Christ.

We do not notice these innovations to denounce them, or to stigmatise the clergy who introduce them. That which it seems important to notice in them is the power which individuals, to whom no authority has been given for that purpose, have to effect the most revolutionary changes in an institution which is the creature of law. About what are called the eucharistic vestments, there is just enough dispute kept up as to the meaning of the rubric to lead a by-stander to suppose that the innovators had the strictest regard for the appointed order of their Church; but only a little attention is necessary to discover that Catholic practice and mediæval antiquity are the sources in which authority for rites of worship has been sought, while the statutes and rubrics of the Church have been consulted chiefly with the desire to ascertain what has not been forbidden. It is easy to see how a clergyman, by acting on the assumption that what is not prohibited is permitted, may overlay the service contemplated by the Reformers with rites which completely change its character. What neither Convocation, nor Parliament, nor both together, are ready to do, is done most effectually by a single priest.

Now it is evident that, apart from the question whether the Reformers or our modern Ritualists have taken the more correct view of Christian worship, there are certain inconveniences attending the assumption by individuals of a right to introduce novelties—or forgotten practices which have the effect of novelties—into the service of the Church. In new churches, where the character of the congregation is to a large extent formed by that of the service, and in large towns, where a large number of churches offers the greatest latitude of choice to worshippers, these inconveniences are not felt in their full severity; and, accordingly, we find that in such churches the attempt to naturalise the most developed form of ritualism is by preference, though not invariably made. But a parochial clergyman has very great power, and when once it appears that he cannot be made accountable to any superior for such innovations as we have noticed, we shall find that the latter will be forced upon unwilling congregations.

It is important that the matter should be well considered, in order that whatever may ultimately be done or acquiesced in may be adopted upon some intelligible principle fitted to serve as a guide on future occasions. When not long ago the Bishop of London rebuked some of his clergy at a consecration of a church near Shoreditch, for dressing themselves up like Romish priests, he was in turn rebuked by some of our liberal contemporaries as if he had infringed the rights and curtailed the liberties of those gentlemen. But liberty without order is anarchy. Until within the last few years it was commonly supposed that the Church of England provided a certain form and order of worship, which was the heritage of her children, and of which they could not be deprived. Differences in the mode of performing it were allowed; thus, for instance, the poetical parts of the service, which were generally read in parish churches, were sung in cathedrals. But the introduction from foreign sources of a system of symbolism expressing ideas which all Protestant Churches reject, is another matter. If that is to be allowed to be done in a parish church by the mere act of the rector or incumbent, we do not see what is to be forbidden. It may be said that congregations like it, or the priests would soon leave it off. That some like it, and that others, who at first have their curiosity stimulated, finally subside into languid acquiescence, is certain. But while it is found that those who have been once accustomed to a sensuous ritual cannot settle down again to enjoy the simple service which once satisfied them, others are unable to follow the clergy in their imitation of the rites of Rome. They form a large number, and it will become absolutely necessary to consider their wants. How can it be done under the parochial system? Will you provide two, or perhaps three, kinds of religion—High Church, Low Church, and Broad Church—in the same parish? Or, maintaining the parochial system, will you leave those who dislike the type of worship at the parish church to satisfy themselves elsewhere, with the Roman Catholics or the Dissenters? There is only one other alternative, which has been proposed in Parliament and rejected, but which may perhaps be welcomed before long. It is to set over against the new liberty claimed by the clergy, a concession of liberty to the laity, who must be free to establish congregations in which the services of the Church may be conducted in a form of which they can avail themselves.

THE CLERGY AND THE JAMAICA QUESTION.

The following is an extract from a letter in the *Daily News* from the Rev. Philip Hains, incumbent of St. George's, Wigan:—

It is never very pleasant to see religion likely to become a laughing-stock to the ribald and profane, but I must say that the conduct of some of my reverend brethren on the subject of the Jamaica atrocities has a direct tendency to produce such a result. We are earnestly exhorted to pause in expressing an opinion of the actions of the civil and military authorities of Jamaica until the report of the Commissioners has arrived; but those who were loudest in their protestations, have failed in setting us an example of impartiality. Day after day they have prejudged the case in favour of Mr. Eyre, and have censured and condemned those who would call him before a bar of justice. Silence, therefore, is no longer practicable. It has already been adduced as proof that the first interest excited has already died away. As a clergyman, I beg most respectfully to enter my most solemn protest against the treatment which this most painful subject has recently received—first in Liverpool, then in Huddersfield, and more lately at Burnley. The accounts which we originally received from Jamaica of the negro outbreak, and of its terrible suppression, at which not only the people of England, but of Europe, were startled, were indeed, in one sense, one-sided. They were published, acknowledged, fully proved, and gloried in by the principal actors themselves. The statements on the other side have never been heard. Dead men tell no tales, and those who are alive have been under such influences of terror that they dare not reveal the full sum of the enormities enacted. The fact cannot be too often insisted on, that only partial accounts have so far reached this country. But the whole evidence derives its force from this very consideration, for these accounts have emanated from a body of men who would not falsely criminate themselves, who by their own showing have clearly violated the law, and have been guilty of inhumanity and murder. This being the case, how has such evidence been accepted by the ministers of the Church? At first there was a general apathy with regard to the whole matter. The slaughter of some hundreds of bullocks, consequent on the cattle plague at home, seemed to create more excitement than the slaughter of 2,000 negroes in Jamaica. At length there appeared some faint symptoms of clerical opinion on the subject. Liverpool led the way, and there a great Church orator, remembering the origin of the town in which he dwelt, and the commercial union with slaveowners, entered into by most of his audience—that they had long been the best customers for the purchase of slave-grown cotton, unmistakeably evincing their proclivities during the American rebellion—this temporising gentleman, remembering all this, trimmed his sails to catch the passing gale, strongly deprecated all prejudging of Governor Eyre and his officers—in other words, gravely announced that it would be cruel injustice to believe these gentlemen, even on the evidence of their own published despatches. Huddersfield came next. The clergy of this town expressed their sentiments in a memorial to the Colonial Secretary, where sympathy with Governor Eyre and all that he has done, and reprobation of the unfortunate blacks, were expressed in language the most unequivocal. And now another reverend believer in Christianity, from Burnley, deliberately asks that the flogger of naked women and defenceless children "may receive the sympathy of all honourable men." All this is very painful and humiliating. It places one, as a clergyman, in a very awkward position, especially when we couple these facts with the extraordinary teachings of your contemporary the *Standard*. That paper is supposed to represent the views of the Church, and is patronised by large numbers of my reverend brethren. The morality of this journal is about as "unique" as Colonel Hobbs' campaign. It contemplates the wholesale slaughter and torturing of men and the indecent flagellation of women with the most unruffled serenity, as so many proved instances of the Governor's firmness and vigour, and as no reasons why he should be denied the thanks of Government and the country. And then the most sordid and degraded instincts of our nature are appealed to. The clergy are addressed as though they could not afford to keep a conscience. Eyre has "saved an English colony," that is the point insisted on, and what though he has transformed the fairest portion of it into such a field of blood, that, as a colonial paper states, the stench arising from the unburied bodies is likely to prove deadly to the survivors; and what, though he has perpetrated some of the foulest wrongs that man ever did to man, still the gain to England is so great, that what is morally wrong is, in this instance, to be accepted as practically right. This is the kind of Gospel which is preached every day in hundreds of country parsonages of England. I trust that it is only charitable to conclude that such depraved articles are not palatable to the great body of the clergy; but in that case the questions at once arise, how is it that the articles do not assume a different tone, or why do not the clergy cease to take in the offending print? Cruelty, bloodshed, the flogging of women, are at all times ugly sins; but when they are directly or indirectly connived at by the ministers of a Christian church, their ugliness becomes a thousand times more terribly disgusting.

REPLY OF BISHOP COLENSO TO A NATAL ADDRESS.

Bishop Colenso has replied as follows to an address presented to him from Durban:—

Gentlemen,—I receive with deep feelings of thankfulness this address, which you have presented to me upon my return to the colony, after an eventful absence of three years. I rejoice to find that among the laity of the Church of England in this diocese there are so many as this list of signatures implies, who, instead of condemning, are ready thus to express publicly their approval of the efforts which I have made, however imperfectly, to promote the cause of true religion and secure the best interests of our National Church. For, gentlemen, what I have done in England I have done not merely as a Christian man whose duty it is to do God's work and to speak God's truth in the world, as he may be enabled to see it, contributing his portion of labour, whatever it may be worth, for the common good, but expressly as a member and minister of the United

Church of England and Ireland, of that National Church in which I have been ordained a bishop. In England, as was asserted recently before the Privy Council—and the statement was not questioned by any—we should all by law, by our very birthright, be members of that Church though we might not choose to claim and exercise our privilege. But here, in this colony, we belong to it, if we belong to it at all, by choice; we have chosen it as the religious body by whose laws we will be governed, whose principles we will recognise, whose blessings we will enjoy, and whose defects, if there are defects in its system, we will patiently endure, until they shall be remedied by lawful authority. As the Bishop of Wellington has lately said, we have voluntarily tied ourselves to the chariot-wheels of the mother Church of England, and we must be content to follow her leading whithersoever she takes us, while still professing to belong to her communion.

1. First, I say, we have made choice to be bound by her laws, to submit to the decisions of her chief tribunals, to the interpretations that from time to time may be put upon her formularies by her supreme courts of appeal. 2. We have agreed also, here in this land of our adoption, to recognise this grand foundation-principle of the Church of England—that the Queen, not the archbishops and bishops—the Queen, not, of course, in her personal capacity, but as representing the whole nation—the State, and not the clerical body—is the one only legislator and supreme arbiter of all causes which may arise within her pale, spiritual as well as temporal—that the archbishops and bishops in England itself only exercise jurisdiction in the Church as it is delegated to them from the Crown, and hold their courts in the Queen's name—that all their authority, except only what comes by force of moral persuasion and convincing argument, by the power of a holy life and the influence of the truth spoken in love, emanates from the common head of the Church and State. This principle seems, no doubt, to many most excellent persons very objectionable; it is styled "Erastian," and condemned as ungodly. I am not now called upon to justify or maintain it. I merely assert that it is the fundamental principle of the Church of England. 3. From this principle, however, it is that we enjoy some great blessings, and, among others, this, that our laws being made for us by the State in England, and not by a body of clergy, or a synod of clergy and laity, assembling in England or elsewhere, we are not for ever bound, as the Church of Rome is bound, to one unvarying system of doctrine and discipline, or one which can only be modified by ecclesiastical authority. As the nation progresses in intelligence and knowledge, it may make, and will assuredly make, from time to time, those changes in its religious system which the progress of the age requires, in order to bring the teaching of the Church of England, as the national religious educator, into accordance with that which is imparted—rather, which is enforced—throughout the length and breadth of the land, in all schools and colleges receiving national support. In such schools and colleges, for instance, the main result of geological science will be freely and popularly taught, in plain English, without reserve, though utterly irreconcilable, as was lately said from the pulpit of the Cathedral Church of St. Paul's in London, with some well-known statements of the Scripture narrative. It is of vital consequence to the permanence of the Church, to its maintaining its hold upon all the educated classes of the community—and what class is not embraced in this description in these days?—that the teaching from the pulpit on Sundays should not contradict the lessons of the school on week-days. And, by virtue of our foundation principle, the changes needful for this will be made judiciously and gradually, as all such changes in our laws are made, by the deliberate action of the legislature, when the subjects in question have been long discussed beforehand freely and fully, in and out of Parliament, on all sides, and the public mind has thoroughly ripened upon them. Of this kind is the very important modification which has just been made in the form of subscription required to be made by the clergy at ordination; by virtue of which a greatly extended liberty of thought and speech, commensurate in some respect with the wants of the present day, has been already granted to the clergy, such as I had hardly ventured to hope for so speedily when I wrote my first preface. I may remind you that this change in the law was made for the clergy of the United Church of England and Ireland, without in any way consulting the clergy in Ireland. The two English Convocations, it is true—most defectively representing even the clergy of the National Church in England, and not at all the laity—were allowed by the Queen to consider the measure which the Government had already decided to introduce, and, if possible, to pass into law. But the clergy in Ireland, though their two archbishops entreated earnestly to be allowed to go through the mere form of considering the new form of subscription with a view of accepting it, were not permitted to do so. The Queen—that is, the State—legislated for the National Church on this occasion without the advice or consent of the clergy; and the clergy in Ireland who belong to the National Church are bound by this law, just exactly as those in Africa will be bound by it, who really and truly belong to the Church of England, and have not forsaken her laws, and with her laws her liberties, for the narrow ecclesiastical system of the Church of South Africa. 4. Lastly, there may be still defects inherent in the present system of the Church of England,—I could point out some which appear such to me, but which may not appear in the same light to others; while, on the other hand, there are doubtless excellent persons, attached in heart to the Church of England, who lament that her laws do not forbid and exclude, and utterly condemn, such criticisms as my own. If the feelings of any are so strong on these points that their consciences will not allow them to abide any longer in a Church within whose walls such liberty of thought and speech is tolerated, there is nothing to compel them to remain within it. They are free, now as ever, in this colony to abandon altogether the system of the National Church of England, and attach themselves to the Church of South Africa, and then, of course, as bishop of the United Church of England and Ireland, I should cease at once, in consequence of this act of theirs, to have any further official connection with them. But I, for my part, should deeply regret to find that any considerable number of those who have hitherto been reckoned with the laity of the Church of England in this diocese should see their duty in this light. Rather, I would urge upon all to remain patiently in their adherence to the Church of their native land, "assenting" to its system of doctrine and discipline, even where not wholly approving, and "consenting" to it, submitting cheerfully to those defects which must be inevitable, in some form or other, in any human system, and trusting that the wise and gracious providence of God is even now taking account of that which may seem to some an evil, but which cannot be remedied, except by the constitutional action of the Queen and the Parliament, and will overrule it for His own glory and for the good of men.

Gentlemen, I repeat, as a member and minister of the National Church, I have endeavoured to do my part, however feebly, towards lengthening her cords and strengthening her stakes, towards increasing her power and efficiency, towards promoting her stability, and insuring her permanence. I deny that I have broken any of her laws. I deny that I have violated any of the pledges which I gave at my consecration as a bishop of that Church. And I have challenged my adversaries, as you probably know, in every possible form, if they think otherwise, to bring my books before the Queen for judgment. I trust that as the clouds of misconception are clearing away the real state of the case is already being seen more plainly by many who may have once judged me somewhat severely, as your warm and friendly greeting assures me it is in some measure realised by you. But were it otherwise, I should rest satisfied with the conviction that a not very distant day will show that it is I and my fellow-labourers in the same or similar fields—and you are aware that Bishop Hinds, the Deans of St. Paul's and Westminster, and others, not the least learned and pious among the divines of the Church of England, have lately joined in a public expression of sympathy with me—it is we, and not our opponents in this great conflict, who are the true conservatives, the true friends, lovers, and champions of the National Church.

DEAN CLOSE ON CONVOCATION.—In returning a proof-notice of his degrees, preferments, &c., for insertion in an account of members of Convocation, Dean Close, of Carlisle, adds, "I have had nothing to do with that great sham, Convocation! F. C."

PRESBYTERIAN UNION.—On Monday night the Lord Provost of Glasgow presided over a crowded and enthusiastic meeting which was held in the City Hall, Glasgow, with the view of furthering a union between the three unendowed Presbyterian denominations in Scotland. The leading speakers were Dr. Buchanan, Mr. Symington, and Dr. Cairns, of Berwick—representatives of the three bodies. Their tone was one of great satisfaction with the deliberations that have taken place and the conclusions that have been arrived at, and one of great hopefulness as to the issues that may be anticipated. It is expected that a final report by the joint-committees on the subject will be presented at the meetings of the supreme courts of the several bodies in May next. It is likely to recommend a coalition.

THE CONGREGATIONALISTS AND THE FREEDMEN OF AMERICA.—The Congregational churches of England and Wales had collections on Sunday for the freed people of America. The Rev. Dr. Holbrook, from the United States, who represents the American Missionary Association, preached in the morning at Canonbury (Harecourt) Chapel; and in the evening at the King's Weigh House Chapel (the Rev. T. Binney's), Mr. Binney preaching in the morning, and the collections amounted to about 160*l.* There is reason for congratulation at so large a sum from only two of the 2,767 Congregational churches in this country. Many who gave on Sunday had given large sums previously. One gentleman, long connected with the Weigh House, quite recently sent 200*l.* as his own donation through the London Freedmen's Aid Society.

A PROTESTOR IN CHURCH.—On Sunday afternoon, before dismissing the congregation, the Rev. Dr. M'Culloch, Greenock, proceeded to congratulate his people upon the improvement observable in the psalmody of the church of late, and stated that, in order to obviate the inconvenience occasioned by the words of a number of doxologies now sung by the choir not being generally known to the worshippers, the congregational committee had got a number of slips printed with the words of those doxologies agreed upon to be sung in church, which they would now find in their pews. At this stage of the Doctor's remarks, a member of the congregation rose in the middle of the area of the church, and in substance said:—"Doctor, by what authority are these innovations being introduced into our church? I, for one, in the presence of God and this congregation, protest against them." Having delivered himself of the above protest, the gentleman resumed his seat. The congregation, as may be imagined, became greatly excited, but the rev. Doctor proceeded with his remarks as if nothing had happened.—*Glasgow Herald.*

THE BISHOP OF RIPON ON THE UNION OF CHURCHES.—The Bishop of Ripon, in a speech at Leeds on Wednesday, remarking on the recent efforts for the reunion of Christendom, said:—"We hear much said in the present day about the desirableness of union; and there are those who have openly avowed an earnest wish to bring about a union between our own Church and the Church of Rome on the one hand, and the Greek Church on the other. I am for union, but it must be a unity based upon the truth of God's Word. The only union which I can desire to promote is that unity of the spirit for which we constantly pray, in the bond of peace and in righteousness of life. In my judgment, to urge union between our own Church and an apostate and erroneous Church upon any other condition whatever than the renunciation of her errors on the part of that Church, is an act of treason to God's truth. Let those who wish for union with Rome or with the Greek Church make what efforts they can, and may God speed their efforts to induce the Church of Rome or the Greek Church to throw off those errors against which our reformers, and we, as their successors, protest. But till the Church of Rome will renounce those doctrines against which we contend as hostile to God's truth, as contrary to His revealed word, our only befitting language as members of the Church of England must be, 'No peace with Rome.'"

NONCONFORMIST SERVICES IN THE NAVY.—The Lords of the Admiralty, in consequence of representations made to them by the Presbyterian and Wesleyan bodies, have issued regulations by which Nonconformist seamen and marines in the home ports will in future have the privilege, under certain restrictions, of attending the services of the ministers of their respective persuasions. Hitherto they have had to attend the Church of England service; but from the beginning of the New Year this will be changed wherever there are a certain number of Dissenters in a fleet at a port. The Admiralty have given directions how the men are to be taken to their respective places of worship, and have arranged a table of payments, by which Nonconformist ministers will receive a capitation allowance for seamen and marines who attend their chapels. When required, the minister must officiate in the marine barracks, receiving the allowance in proportion to the number of men attending his ministry.

DR. COLENSO AMONGST HIS FLOCK.—A correspondent of the *Cape Argus*, writing from Durban on November 11, five days after the Bishop of Natal's arrival, says:—"You will no doubt be anxious to know what kind of reception the Bishop of Natal met with on his arrival at Durban. I must say that the people in Natal, and in Durban especially, have, in this instance, shown a largeness of heart and a generous liberal feeling which is quite refreshing. Two addresses have been presented to him—one by the churchwardens and thirty parishioners of Addington, near the point. I think that every man in that small parish must have signed the address to make up that number. The other was presented to him the next day by the Mayor of Durban and several others, bearing one hundred and forty-eight signatures. People vie with one another in welcoming the bishop, and expressing their sympathy with him. It must of course be cheering to the bishop to meet with a reception such as seldom, if ever, gladdened the heart of any bishop on the return to his diocese; and he gratefully acknowledges that he was never so welcomed at any time before."

LIBERTY OF WORSHIP IN JAMAICA.—At a meeting on Tuesday last of the Glasgow Presbytery of the United Presbyterian Church, Mr. Stark, an elder, gave notice of the following motion for next meeting of Presbytery:—"Whereas it is beyond the province of the civil magistrate to decide who should and who should not be preachers of God's Word, and whereas, by a letter in the *United Presbyterian Record* for January, 1866, from the Rev. James Watson, of Kingston, Jamaica, it appears that he assisted in the preparation of a bill for the regulation of religious worship in Jamaica, which bill, he says, 'will put down effectually all unauthorised preachers, such as are at present an injury to the island'; this Presbytery resolves:—1st, to take measures to prevent such bill coming into operation by receiving the sanction of her Majesty the Queen; 2nd, to ask the Mission Board of the United Presbyterian Church to disavow, if they have not already disavowed, said procedure of the Rev. James Watson, as *ultra vires* of his office as a missionary of that church."

BISHOP OF LONDON'S FUND.—A meeting in favour of this fund was held in the Egyptian Hall of the Mansion House on Thursday. It was intended mainly to interest the young men of the City in the success of the scheme, and there was a large number of the class present. The Lord Mayor not only lent the use of the hall for the purpose, but he himself took the chair. The bishop gave details, and made an energetic appeal for the fund, and particularly urged young men employed in warehouses in the City to take part in the work. The meeting was also addressed by the Rev. T. J. Rowsell, Mr. Walford Greatorex (of whom it was said by one of the speakers that he had given 500*l.* to the fund), Mr. George Warrington, and Archdeacon Harris. On the motion of Mr. Redmayne, seconded by the Rev. F. Blomfield, the thanks of the meeting were voted by acclamation to the Lord Mayor. His lordship, in reply, expressed the pleasure it had given him to afford the bishop facilities for addressing them. Mr. Pilkington, the organising secretary, announced that it was the intention to form a general committee to represent the principal warehouses, out of which a smaller committee would be chosen.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL ON CHRISTIAN UNION.—The Duke of Argyll presided on Tuesday at the annual meeting of the National Bible Society of Scotland, in the Glasgow City Hall. In the course of a long address, warmly advocating the claims of the society, he touched upon one or two of the theological questions of the day. Referring to Dr. Newman's statement that the Bible was not intended to teach doctrine, but only to prove it, he said the society would still be useful in circulating the proofs of true doctrine among those who had to judge. It was useful in promoting Christian union. "But we must always remember that union with one set of men very often means wider separation from another set of men. (Cheers.) And a more excellent example of this may be found in a short account which we have lately had—rather by accident than otherwise—of a meeting recently held in London, for the purpose of furthering a union between the Anglican Church and the Greek Churches in the East. That account was published by a foreign nobleman, a distinguished man in Russia, and got, as I think, by accident, and no doubt to the no small confusion of that meeting, into the newspapers. The point which Prince Orloff was most

anxious to dwell upon, and the one which those with whom he was associated wished most to emphasise, was that works should be published in England setting forth the history, doctrine, and present condition of the Evangelical Church, with a view to proving that it is not a Protestant but a Catholic Church. So that the great object is to prove a closer union with the Greek Church and a further separation from the Protestant. (Hear, hear.) Efforts after Christian union must therefore be strictly examined as to their aims and tendencies before we conclude that they are necessarily Christian in spirit and salutary in their influence." (Cheers.) He believed that the divisions of Christendom had actually been serviceable in promoting the truth. He then discussed Dr. Pusey's recent work, dwelling on the proofs Dr. Pusey gives of the Mariolatry in the Roman Catholic Church, and pointing out the inconsistency of Dr. Pusey's wishing a union with that Church through the priesthood—a union which could only lead to the wider diffusion of similar errors. He concluded by defending the utmost freedom of individual opinion, in opposition to Dr. Newman's principle of absolute obedience to the Church, as the only barrier against the tendency of the human intellect to infidelity.

CHURCH ASSOCIATION FOR UPHOLDING THE PRINCIPLES OF THE REFORMATION IN THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.—A public meeting, in connection with this society, was held in the Town Hall at Devonport, on Tuesday evening last, in order to afford the friends of the Church of England an opportunity of expressing their opinion respecting the introduction into the public services of the Established Church of obsolete vestments, incense, and other Romanistic observances. The large Guildhall was thronged. Several of the ultra-Ritualist clergy, and many of their adherents, were present, and the meeting was of an exciting character. The first resolution affirmed that the introduction into the public services of the Church of England of obsolete vestments, incense, and other Romanistic observances, is opposed to the simplicity of the Gospel, contrary to the spirit and teaching of the Reformed Church, and calculated to disturb the peace and welfare of the country. This resolution was proposed by the Rev. Dr. Blakeney, supported by the Rev. H. A. Greaves, Vicar of Charles, Plymouth. An amendment was moved and seconded by the Tractarian party to the effect that it is not advisable to interfere in any way with the Book of Common Prayer. The amendment, being put to the meeting, was lost; and the original motion carried by an overwhelming majority. The Romanising party having left the room, a motion was unanimously carried for the establishment of a local branch of the "Church Association" for Plymouth, Devonport, and Stonehouse, the General Committee consisting of about sixty of the clergy and laity.

THE LAY DIACONATE.—Reference has more than once been made in our columns to the movement which is on foot, with the direct sanction of the Archbishops of Canterbury and York and the Bishop of London, to establish a lay diaconate in the Church of England. The Archdeacon of London, who has taken an active part in the matter, has submitted a series of rules for the proposed new order. His suggestions were, it appears, made nearly twenty years ago, but now they are likely to receive the general sanction of the Church. Somewhat abridged, they are as follows:—1. A form of ordination will be required, the service for the ordination of deacons being taken as the model. 2. The order of sub-deacons, not being one of holy orders, may be of temporary obligation. 3. Qualifications to be baptism, the fact of being communicants, testimonials of piety and fitness, possession of means of support from property, employment, or allowance from incumbent, competent knowledge (but no Greek or Latin required). 4. The duties may comprise those allotted to the deacon (excepting the power of baptising infants, assisting in the distribution of the holy communion, and solemnising marriage); that is, 1, he may read prayers in the church, bury the dead, catechise youth, and prepare them to be confirmed; 2, when he ministers he may wear a surplice; 3, he may preach or expound Scripture in any place licensed for public worship, but his sermons must be written or so delivered by memory that he may be able to give account of his doctrine; and 4, times and places of service to be allotted by the bishop on application from incumbent.

IMPORTANT CHURCH-RATE CASE.—On Thursday a Church-rate case of some importance as to the manner of making a Church-rate and the legal observances necessary to give it force and bearing upon the items proper to be charged, was heard at Aldershot before a full bench of magistrates. The defendant was Mr. Charles Gammon, a member of the United Presbyterian Church, and a leading tradesman of the town, and the churchwardens prosecuting were Mr. Helen and Mr. Bateman. Mr. John Bennett, of Serjeants'-inn, appeared for the defence, and Mr. R. Eve, solicitor, vestry clerk, for the churchwardens. The making of the rate and the demand having been proved, and the witnesses having been cross-examined on minor points, Mr. Bennett addressed the Bench, and in the course of his remarks took objections to the demand for the rate (which amounted to 6s. 5d. on a 2d. rateage) on four grounds; first, that there was no proof of the calling of the vestry-meeting to make the rate; second, that there were illegal items charged in the estimate; third, that persons who ought to be rated were omitted; and fourth, that the rate was excessive. In support of the first objection Mr. Bennett said it had not been proved that notices had been affixed to the doors of all the churches in the parish, as rendered necessary by the 7th William IV., and 1st Vict. cap. 45, an Act which repealed a clause in the 58th George III. cap. 69, providing that notices of all vestry-meetings should be given at service at the parish church at least three days before the date fixed for the holding of such meeting. In support of the second objection Mr. Bennett quoted from the estimate made for the rate items for the repair of the church clock, for visitation fees, and 6*l.* for collectors' expenses in going to sessions to support summonses for the rate. It was for the churchwardens to collect the rate without putting the parish to expense, and in law cases if they gained the suit their costs would be allowed. He quoted a case from Prideaux' work on Church-rates, a judgment given by Dr. Lushington, as follows:—"A Church-rate can only be made for the repair of the church, and for the decent performance of Divine worship therein." As to the third objection, Mr. Bennett showed that in two or three instances the tenant had been omitted from the rating, and the landlord inserted, which was contrary to law, the law being that Church-rates could only be enforced against the occupiers of premises. On the fourth objection the learned gentleman held that a 1½d. rate would have been sufficient. Mr. Bennett quoted judgments from Lord Cockburn, Dr. Lushington, Judge Coleridge, and other judges, in support of his position, and on these grounds applied for the summons to be dismissed. Mr. Eve replied to several of Mr. Bennett's arguments, and contended that his learned friend should prove his objections to be *bonâ fide*, and that the Bench had no power to dismiss the case unless he did so. He considered the objections frivolous, and that it was not intended to follow the case into a higher court. Mr. Bennett thought this last observation "cool," and said he was not bound to prove a negative, and the rules of evidence should be enforced at Aldershot Camp as well as anywhere else. He also quoted a statement of Lord Cockburn, that he considered the application of a professional man, even if he should afterwards fail to establish his objection, a proof in such cases of the objection being *bona fide*. After hearing some further remarks from Mr. Eve against Mr. Bennett's arguments, the Bench retired (although it had previously considered the point of the validity of the rate, and held this to be valid) to consider Mr. Bennett's objections. On the return of the magistrates into court—Captains Newcome, Birch, and Elliott—the chairman said they considered "the point raised by Mr. Bennett to be very nice, and would dismiss the summons, but without saying why."

Religious Intelligence.

SUNDAY SERVICES FOR THE PEOPLE.—The Rev. Newman Hall announced, at the weekly lecture in the Surrey Chapel, on Monday evening, that a series of Sunday services for the people would be commenced at Lambeth Baths next Sunday evening, and that several navvies, men of intelligent minds, would address the congregation.

MIDNIGHT MEETING MOVEMENT.—A deeply interesting meeting was held under the auspices of this society on Tuesday night, the 9th inst., at the Victoria Hall, Southwark. 130 of the poor fallen women of the neighbourhood came together, and after partaking of some refreshment, listened with evident emotion to the addresses of the Rev. C. Charlesworth, of Surrey Chapel, Joshua Poole, and other gentlemen. Thirty-two of the poor girls applied to be rescued from their life of sin, and after examination twenty were sent to the various homes, two to the Poorhouse Infirmary, four provided with clothes and sent to the hospital, one with stock to sell, five provided for temporarily until further inquiries could be made.

GERMAN CHURCH IN SPITALFIELDS.—A meeting of a deeply-interesting character was held on Wednesday evening, Jan. 3rd, in the Baptist chapel, Commercial-street, London, for the ordination of the Rev. F. Heisigg, from Prussia, as pastor of the newly-formed German church of baptized believers meeting in Princes-street, Spitalfields. A letter was read from the Rev. W. Brock expressive of his earnest sympathy with Mr. Heisigg, of regret that he was unable to attend the meeting, and of his willingness to render all the help in his power to this mission. The Rev. C. Kirtland, Secretary of the British and Irish Baptist Home Mission, delivered a short discourse explanatory of the object of this German mission in London. The Rev. F. Heisigg gave a statement of his conversion, his call to the ministry, and the circumstances which led him to undertake his present work. The Rev. Charles Stovel offered the ordination prayer with imposition of hands. The Rev. F. Tucker, B.A., of Camden-road Chapel, delivered the discourse to the church, which was peculiarly appropriate. The Rev. B. Davies, LL.D., of Regent's-park College, delivered in German a brief address to the church. The other parts of the service were taken by the Revs. B. Preece, of Poplar; Philip Gast, of Spencer-place; M. H. Wilkin, Esq., of Hampstead. There was a touching effect given to the service by the Germans singing at one part of the meeting in German one of their own hymns.

BLACKBURN.—The Rev. John Morgan, of Thornbury, Gloucestershire, much to the regret of his present church and congregation, has received and accepted a cordial and unanimous call to the pastorate of the church meeting in Montagu Chapel, Blackburn, and is expected to commence his labours there on the first Sabbath of February.

MARPLE-BRIDGE, STOCKPORT.—The annual tea-party was held at the Congregational church in this place, on the 25th ult., when about 300 sat down to an excellent tea, plum-cake, and sandwiches. After tea, the attendance was so numerous that an adjournment from the schoolrooms to the chapel was necessary, about 600 being present. Addresses and recitations were delivered by several members of the congregation, and several anthems well rendered by the choir. The Rev. S. Drakeford presided, and the report spoke of a large increase in the congregation and school since the present pastorate. In the early part of the day the scholars of the Sabbath-school were provided with a breakfast of coffee and cake, and after an address by the pastor, each child was presented with a bun and an orange on leaving.

THE SUNDAY SERVICES AT THE THEATRE ROYAL, SHEFFIELD.—The first of a series of Sunday services to working men was conducted on Sunday afternoon by the Rev. R. Stainton and the Rev. H. Tarrant in the Theatre Royal, Tudor-street. The attendance was very large, every available place being occupied. The congregation was composed almost exclusively of working-men; and the marked attention shown by them throughout the service must have been exceedingly gratifying to the promoters of the meetings. The primary object of these occasional services is to gain the attention of those who are not regular frequenters of other places of worship. The appeal towards the incidental expenses was most liberally responded to.—*Sheffield Independent.*

ELTHAM, KENT.—On Wednesday, December 27th, a new schoolroom, built by the friends of voluntary education in this place, was formally opened. About 170, chiefly the parents of the children in the Congregational Sabbath-schools, assembled for tea, kindly provided by friends. Afterwards a public meeting was held, at which about 300 were present. The chair was taken by the Rev. Jabez Marshall; and spiritual addresses of a suitable character were deliverd by the Rev. W. J. Unwin, LL.D., H. W. Dobell, Esq., C. S. Mann, Esq., Angus Jennings, Esq., and T. Clark, Esq., the architect of the building. The room, which is convenient, spacious, and presents both in the interior and exterior a very handsome appearance, has been erected at a total cost of more than 700*l.*; and the gratifying announcement was made that the whole sum had been subscribed. The day-school has been commenced under the superintendence of an efficient master, and with very encouraging prospects of success. The room will also be used at present for the Sabbath-schools, on the books of which there are 240 scholars.

ROTHWELL, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.—On Wednesday last, the 10th of January, the members of the church and congregation belonging to the Independent chapel in this town held a public meeting (preceded by a public tea-party) in recognition of the Rev. James Hoyle as their pastor. About 300 persons sat down to a substantial tea, and a congregation of from 500 and 600 afterwards assembled in the chapel. After singing and prayer, Mr. R. Wiggins, one of the deacons, who was called to the chair, stated that during the fourteen months Mr. Hoyle had laboured with them, more additions had been made to their number than had been known in the same time in any previous period of the church's history. Mr. C. Hafford, another deacon, stated the circumstances which led them to invite Mr. Hoyle to become their pastor. A fourteen months' acquaintance had proved that in their minister they had got the right man in the right place. The Rev. John Hoyle then stated his reasons for accepting the charge. The meeting was subsequently addressed by the Rev. T. Toller, of Kettering; the Rev. W. Clarkson, of Market Harborough; and the Rev. R. A. Redford, M.A., LL.B., of Hull.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—QUEEN-STREET CHAPEL.—The first of a series of services in connection with the opening of Queen-street Chapel, Wolverhampton, was held on Tuesday, the 9th ult. The weather was propitious, and the circumstances of the day were all of a favourable character. The new building is a commodious and elegant structure, in the Italian style. The chapel was nearly filled in the morning, and crowded in the evening. The preacher for the day was the Rev. S. Martin, of Westminster, whose text in the morning was from the 5th of Matthew and 11th verse, "For my sake." The text in the evening was from the memorable words of Jesus, "God so loved the world," &c. The devotional exercises of the day were led by the Rev. W. H. Charlesworth, of Wolverhampton; the Rev. T. H. Horton, the pastor; the Rev. J. Whewell, of West Bromwich; and the Rev. R. Ann, of Handsworth. There were present a considerable gathering of ministers, who were kindly entertained at the houses of various members of the church and congregation; except the ministers of South Staffordshire, who were invited to the residence of F. Shaw, Esq., a liberal promoter of religious institutions. The collections for the day amounted to upwards of 550*l.*

MONMOUTHSHIRE.—The quarterly meeting of the Association of Independent Churches in the Welsh portion of Monmouthshire was held at Ebenezer Chapel, Sirhowy, on Monday and Tuesday, the 1st and 2nd inst. At the conference, which was held in the afternoon of the first day, and which was numerously attended, the Rev. T. Jeffreys, of Ebbw Vale, in the chair, the Rev. W. P. Davies, Rhymney, was unanimously elected secretary of the association, which office the Rev. M. Ellis, Mynyddislwyn, has, through bodily affliction, been compelled to resign, after having most honourably occupied it for twenty years. It was also agreed that the testimonial which is being got up for Mr. Ellis, in recognition of his services as secretary, shall be presented to him on the 28th of February next. A goodly sum has already been

received by the secretary from friends outside the county. S. Morley, Esq., M.P., has subscribed 5*l*. At the public services sermons were delivered by Revs. J. M. Thomas, Newport; M. Ellis, Mynyddislwyn; W. P. Davies, Rhymney; H. Daniel, Cevareib; D. Davies, Varteg; J. Morris, Llanelly; T. L. Jones, Machen; D. Jones, New Tredegar; J. Jones, Brynmawr, E. C. Jenkins, Salem. The devotional portions of the services were conducted by Revs. J. Ridge, Basaleg; D. Williams, Blaena; J. Howells, Sirhowy (Baptist); D. Davies, Varteg. The congregations were very large, and the sermons were listened to with marked attention.

SOUTHPORT, WEST-END CHAPEL.—The annual tea-meeting of the church and congregation connected with the above place of worship, was held in the new schoolroom on Wednesday last, the 10th of February. Addresses were delivered by the chairman (the Rev. J. Chater, pastor), the Revs. J. E. Millson, W. Howgill, M.A., of Farnworth; W. Jowett, of Churchtown; A. Anderson, B.A., of Stand; Messrs. Boothroyd, Binney, and other friends. Very satisfactory and encouraging statements were made by the pastor and deacons with regard to the position and prospects of the church. Commencing the past year with a much larger expenditure, it was gratifying to record that the income received from the purely voluntary offerings of the congregation had been sufficient to meet all the demands for the carrying on of public worship, and to leave a balance to be taken forward into the present year. The whole amount raised for local and general purposes was 525*l*. This does not include 1,163*l*., received or promised during the year towards the liquidation of the school debt. Notwithstanding many losses by death and removal, both the church and the congregation have increased in numbers and strength. The friends of the congregation have reason for congratulation, that within about three years of its history, such satisfactory progress has been made. As this new cause has not interfered with existing interests in the town, it may be regarded as a pure gain to Christ and the denomination.

Correspondence.

THE JAMAICA QUESTION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Thanking you for kindly inserting my letter this week, may I venture to intrude once more on your space?

In talking with various gentlemen about the proposal I made, I have been frequently met with the reply, Wait and see. Now, Sir, I do not believe that *waiting* is ever good when there is anything to be *done*, and in this instance I am doubly suspicious of the advice, as it appears to me to be a crafty device of the supporters of Governor Eyre, by which many good people have been deceived. It was the Governor's friends who first invented the cry. Scarcely venturing to defend him openly, they said, "Wait and hear the other side," wilfully forgetting that we had only heard the Governor's side, and that we were never likely to hear the other fully. The result shows that the device was a clever one, for fairness is characteristic of Englishmen, and many who shuddered at the accounts from Jamaica were yet imposed on by the specious cry. We waited, and the details only made the business more horrible still. Now we are again told to wait and leave the matter in the hands of the Government, who will doubtless do all things well. What confidence may be placed in the Colonial Secretary is, I think, shown by his speech at Oxford, and by his answer to Governor Eyre's first despatch. Besides, it appears that the waiting is to be all on one side. Let any one who doubts this, refer any day to the *Standard*, or even *pseudo*-Liberal papers such as the *Times* and *Telegraph*, and see whether Governor Eyre's supporters are content to wait.

I believe, moreover, that petitions of the nature I suggested, so far from being distasteful to the truly Liberal members of the Government, would be gladly welcomed by them. I feel that, to use the words of Governor Eyre, "A mighty danger threatens the land," but that danger appears to me to arise more from the apathy of those who on the whole feel rightly, than from anything that evil-minded men can do.

I am, Sir, yours truly,
W. S. ALDIS.

Cambridge, Jan. 10, 1866.

MR. BRIGHT AS A STATESMAN.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—I have read with much satisfaction your leader in last week's number on "Mr. Bright as a Statesman," and thank you for it. That eminent man has been the subject of much misrepresentation of late years, and so current has this become that some of his more eminent political opponents, of whom one would have expected honester conduct, have condescended to be the medium of the same, for which they were of late indignantly rebuked by Mr. Bright himself. The newspaper reviler, however, who is left to find his level and reward, is often for a long time believed in by a noisy class, who, not reading for themselves the original text, accept the statements of misleading journals as true. Your article, therefore, is well-timed and just, and it is with much pleasure I have marked the following:—"Such men as the late Mr. Cobden and as Mr. Bright, to whom the country owes the changes most prolific of good, which have made these times famous, are always abused as demagogues during their lifetime, while those who have sucked their brains and profited by their labours, arrogate themselves the credit of practical statesmen. Looking at the laws which have been passed during the last fifteen years, we should like to know of the best of them, whose 'image and superscription' they bear, whose convictions they most nearly express, and of whose efforts they are the rightful crown. These men, whoever they may be, whether in the Government or out of it, will be recognised by posterity as the master spirits of the age, and the undoubted claim to be so considered will hereafter be determined quite irrespectively of the chatter of contemporaneous journalism."

I am, dear Sir, yours very respectively,
A SCOTCHMAN.

January 15, 1866.

CANADA, ITS DEFENCES AND DEFENDERS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Recent manifestations in every civilised country prove the existence of a genuine and growing appreciation of the character and tendencies of that policy of which Richard Cobden was the great apostle. For the death of this prophet of a new era has both challenged and evoked an all but universal admission of the truth of those principles which he advocated; and in the meantime the blindest enemies of progress, and the basest parasites of power, have to stand aside and abate awhile their laboured malignity, while all who cherish confidence, hope, or goodwill towards the world's destinies, unite in spontaneous homage to their greatest modern exponent. Since death has made the spirit of Cobden's policy impersonal, and at the same time evidenced its wide-spread reception by the intelligence of mankind, we venture to affirm that his lamented decease, in which many anxious friends of Liberalism recognised only an irretrievable loss, will give an impetus to the spread of his principles, probably greater than his life and actions could have effected. For the spirit of another of the mighty dead is abroad in the world, and it cannot be less active and powerful than when it inspired the breast and associated with itself in men's minds the personal circumstances of an individual—who no matter how free he might have been from human failings, could not escape being made the object of human misrepresentation, and of every aspersion which bigotry and selfishness can devise.

We have good hope, therefore, that men now living will more and more earnestly urge the application of Mr. Cobden's principles to contemporaneous questions, and especially to those relations with the United States in which he ever took a profound interest, and to which at last, it may be said, his very life was rendered a hopeful sacrifice. For the superior industry and enlightenment, as well as the natural brotherhood of the people of Britain and America, render the application of the principles of peace, and a free unfettered interchange—as well of friendly feeling as of commercial advantages—more likely to be crowned with immediate and undreamt of success, than in the case of any other two nations of the world.

Under an inevitable law of progress, nations enter upon a higher order of political relations as certainly as the social relations of individuals similarly advance. Formerly it was regarded as an honourable and defensive attitude to bear a sword or rapier; whereas now it has become evident, from many years' experience, that personal safety and the public weal are alike better defended by the relinquishment of such dangerous aids, and that justice and the necessity for forbearance afford better guarantees of security than the ostentatious display of defensive weapons.

We think the civilisation of the nineteenth century worthy of the great experiment of extending this principle of defence and security to international relations, and certainly, if it is ever to be tried with a fair chance of success, it devolves upon England and the United States—as standing alone in the front rank of freedom and enlightenment—to initiate so glorious an enterprise. We have sufficient faith in the power of what is right, good, and beneficial, to think and assert that the progress and interests of other nations would the more rapidly prepare and induce them to follow the example of their natural leaders.

Mutual confidence, therefore, and forbearance, and a high *heroic* regard to the dignity as well as the advantages of peace, must constitute the best "defences," not only of Canada, but also of America and of England itself.

Every one sufficiently acquainted with the spirit of the American people and Government knows that no other great nation is less inclined to risk the evil and the curse of war for the sake of an extension of territory. A war of conquest may be necessary to the "greatness" of a tyrant and his slaves, but it has ever proved hurtful to the prosperity of a free people, and it is indeed necessarily at variance with the first principles of democracy. We do not wish a stronger proof of this statement than that which was afforded by public opinion in the Northern States at the time of the Mexican war. Let it ever be remembered that that campaign was entirely a scheme of the now happily extinct slave interest which has been so signally baffled in its second stratagem, and has so fittingly perished by the sword it drew. Unfortunately there are in this country too many venal scribblers and ignorant demagogues who think it their interest to vilify and misrepresent the policy as well as the history of the Western Republic; and so long as our Government is monopolised by those who are afraid to trust their fellow-citizens with a voice in their own concerns, its officials are not likely to place much confidence in the public and essentially popular sentiment of the United States. Yet, while in present circumstances our attention is thus perpetually directed to supposed American "difficulties," and to the defences of Canada, we look hopefully forward to such a radical change in the public opinion of this country as shall suppress such clamours, and, indeed, render such agitations wholly unnecessary.

That we are bound to defend Canada, as we are bound to defend the Isle of Wight, no one will deny. But many forget that Canada is in a state of dependency on a remote mother country—a position which, in course of time, must become unworthy of its population and resources as it is inconvenient and unsafe that a territory so large and exposed should be governed and defended from so great a distance. Hitherto the Canadians have been awake to the advantages of having the expenses which independence would entail, defrayed by the pompous munificence of the English Government; and they are content to live at our expense a little longer, while we are not altogether unwilling to let them. But this arrangement is, in the nature of things, temporary; and it is becoming every day more evident that the fortification by this country of any number of towns on the line of the St. Lawrence and the Lakes would prove as great a failure in the event of war, as the requisite enormous expenditure would be an injustice to the British taxpayers.

The weakness of England in the event of war, as well as the keenly felt disadvantage at which our Government is placed in the discussion of any American "difficulties" which arise from having provinces lying along the Republican frontier, and liable to be wrested from our possession, are elements in the Canadian question which demand *our* attention. At the same time, to the Canadians themselves, who, not unreasonably, are disinclined to expend millions on fortresses which could only be of use in imperial quarrels, for imperial purposes, it is a fertile source of disquietude to continue their connection with a country in whose cause and not their own, or in which they can have any voice whatever, their wealthiest towns and most fertile provinces might be laid waste in a single campaign. It needs no prophet to foresee that this double dilemma, which in their present relations presents itself to England and her America independencies, must, before the world is many years older, procure their separation and mutual independence.

We have deliberately associated these remarks with preliminary reference to the doctrines of peace, non-intervention, and free trade, so rapidly gaining their true position not only in political theories but in actual diplomacy; for their acceptance by civilised nations must entirely change the relations of "foreign possessions," and, indeed, effect a complete redistribution of political power and influence.

Were our American provinces an independent State, the action of those principles to which we have referred would secure to Britain all the advantages which it is consistent with her interest or her honour to exact from a remote territory. The progress of opinion and of the arts, and their moral and intellectual influence, have so far advanced, that men may discern the time to be past when the proper influence of a nation would be maintained by the spread and retention of its foreign conquests, or its power and prosperity secured by the dispersion over the globe of its forts and harbours.

Whatever may be the danger of Canadian invasion, the people of this country have to depend for its avoidance, and for its ultimate extinction from the list of possible calamities, more upon the spread of the spirit of Mr. Cobden's policy than on the erection of earthworks and the manufacture of cannon. And it is through the adoption of these principles that we hope to see Canada, Britain, and the States exercise a more powerful and more righteous influence upon each other through an absolute equality and freedom of influence than any that depend on the schemes of the War Office.

We have recently been favoured with singular demonstrations, by those who think and talk of the defence of Canada only in relation to the defence of "the power of the Crown"—however dangerous may be its exercise—and apart altogether from any question concerning the "defence" of the freedom and welfare of the people—which, in this case at least, is an entirely different matter.

The sentiment which the "imprudent" Marquess de Boissy so openly and honestly avowed with reference to the once hoped-for exhaustion of both Northern and Southern States as being the safest defence of Mexico, has been secretly but more prudently entertained by many in this country whose interests and capacity were equally mean. A selfishness not more sordid than stupid—as is the nature of so base a motive—led many to imagine that the defence of Canada and the defence of English institutions would alike be greatly promoted by the ruin of the Republic.

Whenever it became evident, despite the hopes and blustering predictions of her enemies, that the Republic would survive united and powerful, frequent and uneasy discussions immediately arose concerning the defences of Canada. The very occasion of these discussions proved to us how interested and ignoble was the nature of British sympathy for the South. Members of Parliament grew solemn and even sincere over their great disappointment; and neither Thiers nor Roebuck could have avowed more plainly the meanest and blindest of political beliefs—that the power of one nation can and ought to be maintained by pitiful intrigues to weaken its neighbours. Journalists began to be candid in excusing themselves in view of danger to Canada, for "not being anxious that the war should be over," and the wide-mouthed organs of feudalism yelled forth discordantly that "the South had been fighting our battles." Civil and military critics hastened to publish voluminous diaries and journals, representing the American struggle as a pantomime or a "French Revolution," according to the tastes and habits of the writers, but holding it up unanimously as "an awful example" of "bubble-bursting." But we pity more than we blame those who, though good men in their own sphere, where the higher hopes and interests of humanity are little concerned and less thought of, were weak enough to think that a false position constituted them censors of a great Republic, for apart from the cause of truth and justice we may allow them to have performed well and brilliantly their allotted task of traducing the democracy. Yet we would recommend such writers, in the light of peace and of a life gloriously spent, to reconsider their ferocious attacks upon the men and measures of the North—denouncing in fits of literary assassination the late President in terms which Wilkes Booth and his gallant *confederates* might have envied. We lament the estrangement of feeling between the two nations which these men have done their worst to foster, though well assured that time will do justice to the American people and to their critics; and the world will learn to appreciate the sort of men who cried "tyrant" at Abraham Lincoln.

To denounce Republicanism in the States is as absurd as it would be for a Turk or a Frenchman to malign the character of the English nation for not being subject to Moslemism or a Napoleonic empire; and the writers whom bold incapacity has distinguished in the attempt are surely not promoters of peace and good will over an important part of the earth, and are certainly no part of "the defences of Canada."

We regard independence as the only safe defence of the North American colonies; and we think this will be achieved under the most favourable circumstances—not as the result of war, but through the operation of a wise and generous regard for the interests and prosperity, not only of other nations but also of our own.

The proposed confederation of our American provinces can only be looked upon as an intermediate and necessary step towards independence. It is an unmistakable indication of the gradual and healthy development of the principles of self-government, and must of itself do good service in uniting and harmonising the various elements which are destined to constitute a great and powerful nation. Nor does any "awful example" lead us to anticipate serious difficulties in

securing a firm and efficient co-ordination in the functions of provincial and central authority. Happily for these colonies, slavery does not exist any more than *now* in the United States; and that infamous "State right" which has so egregiously deluded both the slave-owners and their British admirers has been found to be the only State right with which Republican rights are irreconcilable, and the instincts of democracy have determined in a recent and ever-glorious struggle, that it shall never again disturb the peace or infringe the essential unity of a free Republic either north or south of the St. Lawrence.

A. H. B.

THE NEW YEAR'S STATE AND PROSPECTS OF THE FREEDMEN OF AMERICA.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

ESTEEMED FRIEND,—Wilt thou permit me to inform thy benevolent readers that we have more interesting news from various influential and reliable quarters, from those engaged in the various spheres of Christian and philanthropic effort, as well as from American Government and Freedmen's Aid Association officials, respecting the four millions and a-half of coloured people, now legally as well as virtually freed from slavery; for by what is termed the Constitutional Amendment, "Slavery is for ever abolished in the United States!"

General Howard, head of the American Government Freedmen's Bureau, stated, at a recent meeting of the American Freedmen's Aid Commission, that there was "great destitution on the part of the freedmen; that vindictiveness and brutality exist on the part of enraged masters, from the effects of which how many had died or would die he did not say; still the state of things is on the whole encouraging. The whites are not all brutal. The most intelligent of them submit heartily to the new order of things, and rejoice in emancipation"; while on the other hand, "the freedmen are, as a whole, order-loving, law-abiding, and self-helpful." The exigencies of the necessitous have, through the Bureau—"which means to do its duty—aided by voluntary assistance on the one hand, and Government on the other," been wonderfully anticipated, provided for, and so far met, in a very great degree. The General, moreover, expressed pleasure when the large consignments of blankets made by the Birmingham and Midland and other Freemen's Aid Associations were mentioned to him. "Blankets never come amiss," he said, "they can be used as shawls in day-time, and as bed-clothes at night. But," he added, "what is wanted in all seasons is, clothing for women and children; under-clothes, such as shirts, shifts, petticoats, drawers, and the like. Give us these, and gives us teachers, who will be almoners and instructors, who will teach the children in school-time, and help the others at all times."

J. M. McKim, corresponding secretary of the Eastern Department of the American Freedmen's Aid Commission, writes also, under date of "December 19, 1865," referring to the negro schools, and to the labours of the large number of generous and self-denying teachers:—"These will give intelligence to labour and success to industry, reconstruct Southern society, introduce and foster capital, put cotton-planting on an enduring basis, and restore to the South more than its ancient material prosperity. General Howard, in his talk with us, said that the destitution of the South demanding relief was to be found in the following States—the degree of their necessitousness being indicated by the order in which they stand:—1. Georgia; 2. Alabama; 3. South Carolina; 4. Virginia; 5. North Carolina. Your blankets we are distributing through these five States. I have appropriated them among the associations thus:—New York, six bales; Philadelphia, six bales: Philadelphia 'Friends,' six bales; Western (Cincinnati), twelve bales. But you may be sure that they will be judiciously and promptly put to the use for which their generous donors intended them."

Bishop Janes, of the American Methodist Episcopal Church, acknowledging the receipt of 100*l.*, granted by our association for the use of the freed coloured people through him, in connection with the great meeting held in Birmingham Town Hall a few months since, at which the president, ex-president, and other leading members of the Wesleyan Conference (then sitting in this town) took part, says, under date of "New York, December 23, 1865:—The American people appreciate very highly the kind and benevolent interest of your association in the welfare of the needy millions of our land. Your charity is needed, and is properly applied."

We desire not only to co-operate with those who on the American side of the Atlantic Ocean are striving especially for the industrial, moral, and social elevation of the coloured people, headed by Bishop MacIlvaine, Simpson, Janes, and other good men;—and, through the generous confidence of the benevolent, we have been enabled to do this to the extent of upwards of 3,000*l.* during the last month, and funds and goods are still flowing in; but we are specially eager to anticipate the breaking up of winter by securing such ample means of sending out such a large supply of plantation hoes and other suitable implements of labour as shall materially aid the able-bodied coloured people to take the field at the earliest possible date, and thus to earn, to the greatest possible extent, their own maintenance and the maintenance of those dependent upon them. It is calculaten that, in return for every plantation hoe we shall send out, a bale of cotton will be sent to this country for sale, manufacture, and use.

Still, after all, great multitudes of the aged and the young, the maimed and the afflicted, must continue pensioners on the bounty of others; and the dreadful demoralisation of American society will long make great numbers of the able-bodied so as well; and school teachers will be needed by multitudes of adults and children for years to come. But it is our special aim to aid in making the emancipated negro of America as little of a pauper, and as much of a learner, a worker, a citizen, a Christian—indeed properly self-sustaining in every sense—by the best available instrumentalities, and within as short a period as may be possible.

We therefore seek to approach, through thy useful columns, the benevolent of all classes, parties, and denominations, and to ask them (through us, or through others similarly engaged) especially to contribute money, to make up and forward clothing, to circulate pamphlets and other printed documents, which we are ready to furnish gratuitously, and to point out to us where we can make private appeals, deliver lectures, or hold select or public meetings in aid of our great work—in the pursuit of which the Divine guidance has been so signally realised; and in the influence and results of which the Divine blessing has been so signally manifested.

Thine respectfully,
(On behalf of the Birmingham and Midland Freedmen's Aid Association),
B. H. CADBURY,
Honorary Secretary and Treasurer.

Grove House, Edgbaston, 1st month, 13th, 1866.

N.B.—It may interest some of thy readers to learn that, according to the slave census of 1860, the following were the numbers in the States named, and in some others:—Georgia, 462,330; Alabama, 435,132; South Carolina, 402,541; Virginia, 490,887; North Carolina, 331,081; Mississippi, 436,696; Louisiana, 331,726; Kentucky, 225,400; Maryland, 87,188; Florida, 61,753; Columbia, 40,000.

MIDDLE-CLASS EDUCATION—WHAT IS IT? WHO ARE THE MIDDLE CLASSES?

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Allowme a few words on this interesting subject. I will invert the order of my interrogations, and ask first, Who are the middle classes? Are they comprised in little farmers, petty tradesmen, and superior artisans? Or do they include also superior tradesmen and farmers, merchants and manufacturers, professional men, and the lower class of country gentlemen? If the former, then I have nothing to say on the definition of middle-class education as given in your last number; but if the latter then I apprehend the middle-class education referred to, *apropos* of the North Tawton School, is wide of the mark. Again, does wealth or poverty make the middle class? Certainly not, for the poor but literate curate at 100*l.* a-year can have few social sympathies with his wealthy neighbour, the rude and illiterate manufacturer. Or, again, does education make the distinction? Not so, for the illiterate may be found among the upper ten thousand, even in our great schools of learning, and in every class downward. Or, again, does trade make the difference? No, no, for our nobles are engaged in trade, and are among the keenest and most selfish of our tradesmen. Social distinctions and social sympathies have their cycles in all classes. The castes of India have their distinctive boundaries, but the classes of our own country—albeit each in his own personal relations can see the *lower* limit of his class, feel all the petty jealousy and exclusive littleness that mark the Englishman, and often make him contemptible—are vested in the most cloudy and indefinite outline; and among none is this outline so intricate and undefinable as among those coming under the now hackneyed phrase, *middle class*.

What, then, is middle-class education? Why just as varied in its character, and as undefinable in its limits as the middle-class itself. Is it limited to private schools? Certainly not, for our great public schools are crowded with boys who can have no class claim if they belong not to the middle-class. Is it comprised in schools at 4*l.* a-year, or twenty guineas a-year for boarders, that teach the three R's and little else? If so, pray let us know it, that those of us who do aim at something higher in education than this, may at once lift our schools out of the incongruous epithet middle-class, and call them upper-class schools. To assume that the educational wants of the more literate of our great trading and professional community are met by the class of schools referred to in the *Nonconformist* would be simply absurd. These rank among the most keen in their appreciation of educational worth, and often demand and obtain in the better class of private school-maintained by them, an education greatly superior to that of the classes above them. Without denying that a respectable education in the three R's, and even something beyond it, may be given on the terms named, none better than the schoolmaster knows that such schools are utterly inadequate to meet the wants of what really comprise the great and powerful middle—*not class*—but classes of this country.

Further, whence this effort to pin the scholastic profession down to the lowest type, with the remuneration of a mere hand labourer or artisan; and to laud every effort to give the meanest education for the meanest pay? To make an income of 200*l.* a-year at 4*l.* each a teacher must be sole instructor of fifty boys of all ages and requirements. The schoolmaster knows well the limit of his power with a mass of work like this on his hands. The pay for each boy here amounts to 3½d. a-day, and for boarders at twenty guineas a-year the daily pay for *board, lodging, and education* is *one shilling and fivepence*. Why, if the father of one of these boys called at a roadside inn for a cold luncheon, he would expect to pay the same sum or more—*i.e.*, all the costs and appliances of a modern educational establishment, staff, servants, skill, and often large rent, together with the heavy responsibility of the mind, soul, and character of a child, is to be paid for daily at the rate of a single meal in an ordinary inn, or the daily pay of a half-starved Wiltshire labourer.

Sir, we can have no objection to good cheap schools. From mere acquisitiveness, selfish indulgence, and drunkenness, thousands of our better artisan and lower trading population are getting their children educated in our National and British schools, at the cost of a few pence a week to themselves and contributions from you and me, voluntary or involuntary, as the case may be. These can well afford to pay 4*l.* a-year, and did they feel rightly their independence and parental responsibility, their numbers are enough to maintain in any moderately-sized town a good school of this kind. The knell of the drink traffic will, I hope, prove the introduction of such schools, and all will rejoice in their growth, abundance, and excellence. But let us understand what they are, what they do, and for whom they are adopted. If *they* are the middle-class schools, let us know it; but if this term is applicable alike to these and to schools of a superior order, then pray let them be spoken of under some more distinctive term than "Middle-Class Education."

A SCHOOLMASTER.

Jan. 14, 1866.

THE SOUTH LONDON REFUGE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

MY DEAR SIR,—With a heart full of pity I appeal to the sympathies of your readers on behalf of the deserving houseless destitute poor who are nightly fed and sheltered in the South London Refuge. Pray listen to their tales of sorrow and woe, and have compassion on your suffering fellow-creatures. Last night I unexpectedly visited the refuge at seven o'clock. I found a number of wretched objects thronging the gate, earnestly seeking for admission; but every berth was full. My sympathies were excited towards one poor starving woman, with three children all under five years. The babe, four months old, was hanging at the breast, sucking the wind, and one on either side, clinging to the mother's dress, and crying with cold and hunger. The wind was blowing keenly. I took them in with me, and immediately had given to them some bread and coffee. The children laughed with joy, and ravenously devoured the food. Even the babe ate the dry bread with zest. I said, "My dear woman, what has brought you into these wretched circumstances?" She said, "Sir, I will tell you the truth. My husband is in Wandsworth prison; my goods have all been taken for rent; and I have been for some days obliged to walk the streets with my children. I have not a friend in the world to help me." I then spoke to others: but let them tell their own tales.

"T. M." said, "My husband was foreman of a large blacking manufactory. He was seized with fever—also five of my children. They all died within a fortnight, leaving me, with this one girl, totally unprovided for. Since August we have had no home. We are working at brace-making during the day, but can only earn one shilling and sixpence per week each. We have no friends."

"M. H." said, "My husband kept a large boot and shoe shop in Brighton. He sold all off and deserted me. Since then I have got from bad to worse, and am now quite destitute. I should be very thankful to work for my food and lodging."

"M. E." said, "My husband is in the Refuge. He has been ill for a long time, and quite unable to work. Our goods were taken for rent. We have been for some time without any settled home, and are now utterly destitute and starving. We were glad to seek shelter here to-night" (and weeping she said) "We are thankful you received us."

"M. A. T." said, "I am eighteen years of age. I can read and write, and am a bonnet milliner. I could earn from twelve to fifteen shillings a week. I was seduced some months since, losing my character. I lived as long as I could on my clothes. I am now in a most pitiable plight." This is a most heartrending case, but only the type of a large class.

It was a sickening sight to gaze on the pale, wan faces, decrepid forms, torn and tattered garments of these *truly houseless poor*. I had personal intercourse with many others, and found the majority of them were working people, reduced by sickness and other causes to their present distressing condition: willing to work, could they but get employment. I found among the men good tradesmen, but whose tools and furniture had been seized for rent. Now, I propose to establish workshops in connection with the Refuge, both for men and women, and thus test their sincerity by giving them an opportunity to work. But we are in urgent need of funds to enable us to carry out this very desirable project. This year upwards of 75,000 destitute men and women have been fed and sheltered. The cost of bread and coffee for each person has been one penny three-farthings per day. Also the public soup-kitchen has been of immense benefit to the resident poor. One quart of good soup and half a pound of bread is sold for 2½d.; besides which, thousands of free tickets are given away to the starving poor. We have five women employed from the refuge as district visitors, and two devoted men as missionaries to reclaim criminals. But want of space prevents me from writing more. Do pay a visit to the Refuge, 139, Southwark-bridge-road, and see with your own eyes the great boon this institution is to suffering humanity.

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM CARTER.

2, Terrace, Walworth-road, London, Jan. 16, 1866.

P.S.—Please cross cheques to Dimsdale, Fowler, and Co., 50, Cornhill. Post-office orders payable at chief office, St. Martin's-le-Grand.

THE JAMAICA COMMITTEE.

The opinion of Mr. Edward James, Q.C., M.P., and Mr. J. Fitz-James Stephen, dated 13th of January, 1866, has been given on a case submitted on behalf of the Jamaica Committee. In reply to the question—"What is the meaning of the term 'martial law'? and what is the legal effect of a proclamation of 'martial law'?" they enter into a detailed account of the history of "martial law" and the various senses in which the expression has been used. In early times what was called "the law martial" was exercised by the constable and marshal over troops in actual service, and attempts were made by various Sovereigns to introduce the system in time of peace, which was declared to be illegal by the Petition of Right. When standing armies were introduced the powers of the constable and marshal fell into disuse, and the discipline of the army was provided for by annual Mutiny Acts, which provide express regulations for the purpose. These regulations form a code sometimes called martial law. It is, however, more properly called military law. There is, then, no other body of existing law to which the term is strictly applicable. The expression has, however, survived, and has been, in the opinion of counsel, inaccurately and improperly applied to the common-law right of the Crown and its representatives to repel force by force in the case of invasion or insurrection. Counsel then illustrate this view of the subject by an explanation of the provisions of the Petition of Right on Martial Law. The sections in which they are contained, 7, 8, 9, and 10, recite that Commissions under the great seal had lately been issued to certain persons to proceed in particular cases "according to the justice of martial law," and that thereby persons had been put to death who, if deserving of death, ought to have been tried in the ordinary way, while others, pleading privilege, had escaped. Such Commissions are de-

clared to be illegal. Counsel then show that certain acts of Governor Eyre resemble those adopted by Sir George Bower in 1569, under the authority of a Commission declared illegal by the Petition of Right. They also quote Lord Coke, who observes (3rd Inst., cap. 7, page 52), that it is murder for anyone who has a commission of martial authority to hang a man in time of peace by martial law. With regard to the authorities which took the other way, counsel then refer to an Act of the Irish Parliament, 39 George III., cap. 2, putting those parts of the country still in rebellion under military command, and they hold that this Act does not repeal the Petition of Right, as regarded Ireland, but merely meant that the Crown has an undoubted prerogative to carry on a war against an army of rebels as it would against an invading army, and to inflict on them such punishment as might be necessary to repress the rebellion, and to permit the common law to take effect. They quote the opinions expressed by Sir David Dundas, then Judge Advocate-General, in 1849, regarding certain transactions which had taken place in Ceylon. He said, in answer to questions, that if a Governor truly believes that the civil and military power, and the assistance of sound-hearted subjects, is not enough to save the life of a community and to suppress the disorder, it is his duty to suppress it by martial law or by any other means; and that he is responsible just as a man is responsible for shooting another on the King's highway who comes to rob him. If he mistakes his man, and has not, in the opinion of the judge and jury who try him, an answer to give, he is responsible. These views of Sir David Dundas, in the estimation of counsel, are substantially correct. With regard, then, to the nature of martial law, counsel lay down the following propositions: —1. Martial law is the assumption by the officers of the Crown of absolute power, exercised by military force, for the suppression of an insurrection and the restoration of order and lawful authority. 2. The officers of the Crown are justified in any exertion of physical force extending to the destruction of life and property to any extent, and in any manner that may be required for this purpose. They are not justified in the use of excessive or cruel means, but are liable civilly or criminally for such excess. They are not justified in inflicting punishment after resistance is suppressed, and after the ordinary courts of justice can be reopened. The principle by which their responsibility is measured is well expressed in the case of "Wright v. Fitzgerald" (27 *St. Ni.*, p. 65). 3. The courts-martial, as they are called, by which martial law in this sense of the word is administered, are not, properly speaking, courts-martial or courts at all. They are mere committees, formed for the purpose of carrying into execution the discretionary power assumed by the Government. With regard to the Act of the Jamaica Legislature under which Governor Eyre appears to have acted, they hold that it does not create any new power. The legality of the conduct pursued towards Mr. Gordon depends, they hold, on the question whether it was necessary for the suppression of open force, and the restoration of legal authority, to put him to death. They see nothing whatever in Governor Eyre's despatch which affords any ground for thinking that such could have been the case. The fact that Kingston was exempted from martial laws shows conclusively, as against Governor Eyre, that in his opinion no necessity for the assumption of arbitrary power existed then and there. The fact that Mr. Gordon was in lawful custody shows that he was at all events disabled from doing further mischief, however guilty he might previously have been. It would perhaps be too much to say that no conceivable state of things could justify the treatment which he received, but no such facts are mentioned in Governor Eyre's despatch. As to the legal powers of the officers sitting as a court-martial at Morant Bay, they are of opinion that they had no powers at all as a court-martial, and that they could justify the execution of Mr. Gordon only if and in so far as they could show that that step was immediately and unavoidably necessary for the preservation of peace and the restoration of order. They had no right whatever to punish him for treason, even if he had committed it. Their province was to suppress force by force, not to punish crime. In reply to questions asking if the infliction of death by officers enforcing martial law on the evidence of looks or gestures and under other circumstances are legal, counsel make the following remarks:—Cases might be imagined in which some of the acts specified might be justified. In a case, for instance, where the loyal part of the population were (as in the case of the Indian mutiny) greatly outnumbered by a rebellious population, measures of excessive severity might be absolutely essential to the restoration of the power of the law, but this would be a case not of punishment but of self-preservation. No facts stated in Governor Eyre's despatch appear to them to show any sort of reason for such conduct in Jamaica. In reply to the question how Governor Eyre and his officers should be brought to trial, counsel state that they may be indicted in Middlesex, under the provisions of 42 George III., cap. 85. See too 24 & 25 Victoria, cap. 100, sec. 9. They may also be impeached in Parliament. Any person in this country, they add, may prefer a bill of indictment. In reply to a question regarding the effect of a Bill of Indemnity by the Jamaica Legislature, counsel make the following statement:—As Governor Eyre's consent would be necessary to such an Act. and as he could not pardon himself, they are inclined to think that such an Act would be no answer to an indictment in England. Besides this, if Governor Eyre has committed any crime at all, it is a crime against the law of England. They advise that if such an Act were passed, a petition should be presented to her Majesty praying her to refer to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council the question whether the Act ought to be disallowed, and that the petitioners might be permitted to show cause by counsel why it should be disallowed. Unless and until they are disallowed by the Queen, the Acts of the Jamaica Legislature are valid.

A NIGHT IN A WORKHOUSE.

In the *Pall Mall Gazette* have appeared three letters from a gentleman who tested for himself, at the instance of the editor of that paper, the accommodation provided for the houseless poor under the recent Act, by passing a night in the Lambeth workhouse. His experience is described with great force in these letters. He got himself up in a ruffianly dress,—his buttonless coat tied together with twine—his throat in a bird's-eye pocket handkerchief—a battered billy-cock hat on his head,—and was driven down in a brougham to near the workhouse, alighted on the wrong side in the dark of the mid-street, escaped from his carriage, and got admitted. The only slip was that he had failed to fast for half a day, and could not eat his bread when he had got it. He gave himself out for an engraver to account for his hands, invented several other fibs for which his conscience does not appear to trouble him, and was undressed and deprived of his clothes. He plunged (needlessly, as it afterwards appeared) into the bath where the other houseless poor had been washed,—and the appearance of which, after that process, he described as something "disgustingly like weak mutton broth,"—and then, with only a check shirt on and with a rug over his shoulders, was compelled to walk through the open air and on bare stones to the half open shed in which thirty comrades were already housed each on his hay-bag. The cold was terrible, though the kindly attendant taking a liking to him, brought him a second rug; his bed was stained with the blood of some predecessor, and worst of all, the conversation was foul and filthy in the extreme. The night passed very heavily. The writer says:—

The conversation was horrible, the tales that were told more horrible still, and worse than either (though not by any means the most infamous things to be heard —I dare not even hint at them) was that song, with its bestial chorus shouted from a dozen throats; but at any rate they kept the blood warm with constant hot flushes of anger; while as for the coughing, to lie on the flagstones in what was nothing better than an open shed, and listen to that, hour after hour, chilled one's very heart with pity. Every variety of cough that ever I heard was to be heard there; the hollow cough; the short cough; the hysterical cough; the bark that comes at regular intervals, like the quarter chime of a clock, as if to mark off the progress of decay; coughing from vast hollow chests, coughing from little narrow ones, —now one, now another, now two or three together, and then a minutes' interval of silence in which to think of it all and wonder who would begin next. One of the young reprobates above me coughed so grotesquely like the chopping of wood that I named him in my mind the Woodcutter. Now and then I found myself coughing too, which may have added just a little to the poignant distress these awfully constant and various sounds occasioned me. They were good in one way, they made one forget what wretches they were, who, to all appearances, were so rapidly "chopping" their way to a pauper's graveyard. I did not care about the more matured ruffians so much; but though the youngest, the boys like Kay, were unquestionably among the most infamous of my comrades, to hear what cold and hunger and vice had done for them at fifteen was almost enough to make a man cry; and there were boys there even younger than these.

Early in the cold morning the vagrants were in the shed washing and slipping on their rags. Then came breakfast—a slice of bread and skilley—a quarter of a pint of gruel.

"Range round the walls!" the taskmaster shouted. We obeyed with the utmost alacrity; and then what I should judge to be about three-fourths of a pint of gruel was handed to each of us as we stood. I was glad to get mine, because the basin that contained it was warm and my hands were numb with cold. I tasted a spoonful, as in duty bound, and wondered more than ever at the esteem in which it was held by my *confrères*. It was a weak decoction of oatmeal and water, bitter, and without even a pinch of salt to flavour it—that I could discover. But it was hot; and on that account, perhaps, was so highly relished that I had no difficulty in persuading one of the decent men to accept my share.

Each man had to perform a certain quantity of labour—crank-work. Four bushels of corn had to be ground each morning by the night casuals, but a great number of those present only worked by fits and starts when the taskmaster was looking on, and it was eleven o'clock before they were released.

It seems that the next day after the appearance of the first of these letters, this pauper pandemonium was closed at the "request" of the Poor Law Inspector to the Board of Guardians; and all applicants who could not be received into the regular casual wards were handed over to the relieving officer, who made arrangements with a lodging-house for their reception.

DEPOSITS ON PRIVATE BILLS IN PARLIAMENT.—A SLAUGHTER.—It is stated that a murrain has set in among the private and local bills, for which such an unusual number had been given notice in the coming session. With money at 8 per cent., and no certainty that it may not go higher, the indispensable deposits have become impossible. All manner of negotiations are actively carrying on for compromises and postponements, "without prejudice," until a more convenient season.

Postscript.

Wednesday, Jan. 17, 1866.

FOUNDERING OF THE STEAMSHIP LONDON.—270 LIVES LOST.

Messrs. Money Wigram and Sons' steamship London, Captain Martin, from London for Melbourne, has foundered at sea, with about 270 souls on board. The survivors—sixteen of the crew and three passengers—were landed at Falmouth yesterday by the Italian barque Marianople. The chief officer among them, Mr. John Greenhill, engineer, reports as follows:—

We left Plymouth on January 6th. On the 7th we experienced heavy weather, with rain; 8th, the same; 9th, lost jib-boom, a fore-topmast, top-gallant-mast, and royal mast. About 9 a.m. we lost the port lifeboat, a heavy gale prevailing at the time. On the 10th, at 3 a.m., the ship put about, intending to run back to Plymouth. About the same time the starboard lifeboat was washed overboard by a heavy sea, which also stove the starboard cutter. At noon, lat. 46·8 N., long. 0.87 W., we were shipping heavy seas, which carried away the engine-room hatch, the water going down and putting the fires out. The passengers were baling the water out of the ship with buckets. Jan. 11.—The gale was still increasing, with heavy cross seas, nearly all coming over the ship. During the morning all that could were trying to stop the leak in the engine-room hatch, but to no purpose. About 4 a.m. four of the stern ports were stove in. Efforts were made to stop them, but it was found to be impossible. At 10 a.m. lowered the starboard pinnace, which foundered. At 1 p.m. we could see the ship gradually sinking, it being then as low in the water as the main chain. At two p.m. the following persons left in the port cutter: —D. G. Wain, John Munro, and J. E. Wilson, passengers; John Greenhill, engineer; John Jones, second engineer; John Armour, third engineer; Thomas Brown, fireman: W. M. Edwards, midshipman; D. T. Smith, boatswain's mate; William Daniels, quartermaster; John King, Benjamin Shield, Richard Lewis, James Gough, and Edward Quin, able seamen; William Crimes, ordinary seaman; A. G. White, boatswain's boy; William Hart, carpenter's mate; and Edward Gardner, second class steward. About five minutes after leaving the vessel we saw her go down stern foremost, with about 270 persons on board, all of whom are supposed to have perished. There were two other boats getting ready when we left, but they were too late. The above-named persons who were saved were picked up by the Marianople, and treated with the greatest kindness by her captain, Carasa.

(Signed) JOHN GREENHILL, Engineer.

The survivors were driven before the gale in the cutter for twenty hours before they were picked up, and had one very narrow escape of being swamped, the boat being half filled with water.

THE MILITARY REVOLT IN SPAIN.

MADRID, Jan. 15.—It is stated that General Prim is now on the heights of Merida, on the Guadiana, but it is thought that a column of Royal troops will succeed in preventing the escape of the insurgents into Portugal.

The *Correspondencia* says:—"The Government will continue to act in a spirit of legality, toleration, and liberty. Measures of economy will be proposed, the taxes will be reduced, and every liberty will be granted compatible with order. The Ministry enjoys the entire confidence of the Queen."

Madrid is perfectly tranquil.

No confirmation has been received here of the reported suicide of Admiral Pareja.

EARL RUSSELL AND THE REFORM BILL.

A deputation from the National Reform League waited upon Earl Russell yesterday to point out the necessity that the Reform Bill should be comprehensive. Mr. Edmond Beales introduced the deputation, and some excellent speeches were made by working men who were present. Replying to these addresses, Earl Russell said the Government had determined upon bringing in a Reform Bill, and by that bill to stand or fall.

A Cabinet Council was held yesterday at the official residence of the First Lord of the Treasury, in Downing-st.

MARK-LANE.—THIS DAY.

Fresh up to our market to-day the arrivals of English wheat were very moderate, and in poor condition. Dry samples moved off steadily, at full prices; but damp produce was very dull, and a portion of the supply was left unsold at the close of business. There was a fair supply of foreign wheat on the stands. The trade for most descriptions ruled quiet, at about stationary prices. Floating cargoes of grain were in but moderate request, at late rates. The supply of barley on sale was moderate. The trade generally was quiet, on former terms. Malt sold slowly, at late rates. The supply of oats on sale was very moderate. The demand, however, ruled quiet, but at full prices. Beans and peas were in slow request, at the late decline in prices. Flour moved off slowly, at previous quotations.

ARRIVALS THIS WEEK.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Malt.	Oats.	Flour.
English and Scotch	220	490	1,320	2,910	450
Irish	—	—	—	610	—
Foreign.....	860	320	—	2,490	

80 sks.

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The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 1866.

SUMMARY.

THE succession of furious gales, so unusual at this period of the year, was succeeded, or rather varied, on Wednesday evening and Thursday last by a heavy snowstorm, which for the time being changed the external aspect of metropolitan life. For some time previous the suburbs had felt to the full, the inconvenience of drenching rains and miry roads. The turn of central London was now to come. People woke upon Thursday to find the streets covered with a white mantle of great depth drifting about by the force of the wind, the telegraphic wires snapping overhead, and the metropolis almostdeprived of its ordinary vehicular accommodation. Railways were more or less snowed up; omnibuses scarcely put in an appearance; and cabs were few and far between, toiling through the sludge with three horses at fares which only hard-pressed pedestrians deemed it worth their while to pay. Pedestrians found their way about, ploughing through the snow, as best they could, and at the end of their day's business dragged their weary limbs homewards, without any chance of being conveyed thither except by rail. Last Thursday and Friday the great metropolis seemed to be bereft of local Government. Those whose duty it was to clear the streets were paralysed and did nothing, and left the work to be undertaken by an army of young scavengers who richly deserved the harvest they secured, and by the sudden thaw which on Saturday carried off the accumulated slush. Much as the railway invasion of London is decried, it was the railways alone which at the end of last week were equal to the emergency, and ready, after a few hours' exertion, to resume their ordinary, and to cope with an extraordinary, traffic. Doubtless they have resources and an organised power which none others possess. Neither the cab nor the 'bus can overcome such material obstacles as presented themselves last week in London. But at a season when we naturally expect a wintry invasion, is it creditable to those who are placed in authority over us that they should be so utterly unprepared for a fall of snow as to leave all the thoroughfares of London uncared for for twenty-four hours?

The effects of the snowstorm and the heavy gales that have succeeded have been very deplorable both ashore and afloat. In many parts of the country there have been disastrous floods, and wrecks are strewn around the coast. The John Williams was caught in the tempest in the English Channel, and we are happy to say that she securely reached Portland harbour, after a fearful struggle with the elements. At Torbay, on the coast of Devon, no less than sixty-four vessels, of all sizes, most of them fishing luggers, were crowded together when the tornado set in on Wednesday night, and on the next afternoon only fourteen were left, the rest having gone ashore and broken up. By this one terrible disaster alone nearly eighty lives were lost. Another calamity even more fearful in its results has occurred in the Channel. The steam-ship London, bound from London to Melbourne, after encountering a succession of gales in the Channel put back for Plymouth, but the heavy sea swept over the ill-fated ship and put out her fires, and she foundered with some 270 souls on board.

Sir Stafford Northcote, a leading Conservative, has been expounding the views of his party at Torquay. Without desiring to "precipitate a collision" they must "agree to resist proposals for unconstitutional changes"—in which description is, of course, included such a Reform measure as the Government are about to propose. Sir Stafford admits the numerical inferiority of the Opposition, but is cheerful in the prospect of the defection from the Government of members returned at the last election as supporters of Lord Palmerston. Upon this doubtful section of Liberals, Earl Russell's explicit declaration yesterday to a deputation of working men, that he expected to carry the Reform Bill that will be laid before Parliament, but that the Government would stand or fall by their measure, is not likely to be without effect. This important announcement is worth many votes to Earl Russell's administration.

The King of Prussia has opened his Parliament by deputy. His Majesty is too conscientious to violate his solemn oath by abrogating the constitution, but he curtly tells the deputies, through Count Bismark, that he has decided on the military budget, which they can adopt or not as they please. They may deliberate as much as they think proper, but they must only come to a conclusion in accordance with his views. The most interesting portion of the royal speech relates to the Elbe Duchies. At present Holstein is occupied by Austria and Schleswig by Prussia, but King William has not abandoned hopes that both the Duchies will eventually be annexed to his dominions. He is content to wait awhile, having "acquired a sufficient guarantee that the decision of the future of their position can only be in a sense corresponding to the interests of Germany and the claims of Prussia." At present, circumstances are not favourable to these "claims." They are ignored by France; Russia finds it politic to oppose them; and the Kaiser, with the prospect of coming to terms with Hungary, and a good understanding with Napoleon III., is in a better position to put his veto on a project which would give a preponderance to his rival in the German Confederation.

The insurrection in Spain is as much a mystery as ever. A week ago we recorded that General Prim was in the mountainous district near Toledo. He appears to be still thereabouts. Three generals are in pursuit of him, but their bulletins record only marchings and countermarchings. The nett result of their incessant operations is, so far as can be learned, the capture of one man. The insurgent chief is in a country with which he is intimately acquainted, and where, the population being devoted to his person, he is able to baffle his pursuers. The inability of the Royal troops either to come up with him, or compel his retreat across the Portuguese frontier, has given rise to an ingenious theory in Madrid that General Prim has a secret understanding with Marshal O'Donnell, and that the object of revolt was simply to force Queen Isabella to abdicate. But whatever be the secret of this strange insurrection, the country does not respond to Prim's appeals, but quietly looks on while this curious game of rival military chiefs is being played out.

PARLIAMENTARY PROSPECTS.

THE day is close at hand when the Parliament elected in the summer, under the auspices of the late Lord Palmerston, will "assemble for the despatch of business." As it comes within sight, anxiety increases as to the course that is likely to be pursued. There can be no doubt that the party professing Liberal political opinions has a larger majority of members in the House of Commons than it has been able to boast of since the first Parliament elected under the Reform Act of 1832. There is ground for suspicion, however, that an unusual proportion of the Liberals returned to the House of Commons at the last General Election, although they gave in their adhesion to the question of Reform, take very little interest in it, and would be relieved rather than otherwise by its being decently shelved for three or four years to come at least. Had the late noble Premier lived, this result might have been counted upon as probable—now that he has passed away, and his post is filled by a statesman whose past career is a pledge of his future course, room enough is left for the indulgence of speculation as to how these Palmerstonian Reformers will redeem the vague promises they gave to their constituencies. Two conclusions, we think, may be assumed, not indeed as certain, but as characterised by a high degree of likelihood. The first is, that they will not venture, if it can by any means be avoided, to record a direct vote against any Reform Bill introduced by her Majesty's Ministers. The second is that they will not be over nice in lending their support to any party manœuvre, the indirect effect of which will be to prevent the necessity of any such vote being given.

The circumstances of the case are briefly these. The Government feel bound, if only by a regard to the antecedents of their two chief men, to submit to Parliament in the course of the coming Session a measure for amending and enlarging the machinery of representation. The majority of the House of Commons is made up of men who have pledged themselves to the principle of such a measure—but that majority comprehends a considerable minority, whose immediate interests and political sympathies render them exceedingly adverse to the discharge of their engagements, and who will require all the pressure of a moral compulsion to make them serviceable in the ranks of the Reformers. A battle has to be fought, therefore, with reluctant troops. They will fight if obliged to do so—but they would rather not fight on that field at all. What, under these conditions, is likely to be the conduct of the Opposition? It has been rumoured that they will set up one of these nominal Reformers to condemn beforehand any attempt at Parliamentary Reform just now. We have our doubts that they will show themselves such bungling tacticians. It would much better suit their purpose to get rid of the question by a side wind; and unless the information which has reached us be wanting in authenticity—which we do not believe—a determined effort will be made to establish an issue between Government and its opponents, which, if successful, will, it is thought, settle the Reform question without any formal trial.

The plan fixed upon we understand to be this. The Jamaica business will be made the battle-field of parties. The Tories will arraign the Government for their alleged weakness and vacillation in relation to this painful affair. It is assumed, not without some show of reason, which, however, a perfect knowledge of *all* the facts may possibly prove to be show without foundation, that Mr. Cardwell, as Secretary of State for the Colonies, has expressed, in unqualified terms, the Queen's approbation of the steps taken by Governor Eyre, and by the military and naval officers acting under his direction, for suppressing the negro rebellion said to have prematurely broken out at Morant Bay; that Mr. Cardwell, after having paid a handsome tribute of gratitude to the acting authorities who had promptly stamped out the first sparks of insurrection, has been overruled by his official superiors, chiefly in deference to the passionate outcries of some of their leading supporters; that the appointment of a commission was a prejudgment of Governor Eyre by those who ought to have supported him, a prejudgment all the more inexcusable because intended to set aside the becoming act of the Colonial Secretary; and it will be contended that, without waiting the report of the Commission, which will not touch the case, the conduct of the Government towards those who had used her Majesty's authority in putting down armed insurrection was pusillanimous and unprecedented, and therefore deserving the censure of Parliament. Of course, we only are responsible for the wording of the foregoing resolution, but, in purport, that is the motion, we believe, which will be submitted to the House of Commons, and, perhaps, to the House of Peers, by the Conservative party. It is not unlikely, we are told, to be brought on in the shape of an amendment to the Address, and it seems to be on the cards that it will be voted for by a sufficient number of loose Liberals to oust the Government before they can submit their Reform proposals.

The drift of these tactics is sufficiently plain. The Administration is to be stabbed through the weak side of Mr. Cardwell. What do these men care about Governor Eyre, or, for that matter, about Jamaica? We do not mean to insinuate that they have not their own opinions as other men have, or that they are not equally interested in them. But it is one thing to have opinions, and quite another thing to stop the whole business of the country for the sake of getting them expressed. The practical use of putting on record at the earliest available moment the judgment of the House of Commons on the conduct of Government in relation to a matter still under inquiry is either *nil*, or must be sought for in the overthrow of the Administration. It cannot, as matters now stand, do any good to Jamaica nor to Governor Eyre, nor to the military and naval authorities who acted under his orders. It might serve them after the Commission has reported, but not before. He, therefore, who votes for any such resolution at the beginning of the Session will vote for it because he has made up his mind to damage the Ministry under cover of a vamped-up pretext. The constituencies, we trust, will see through the rather transparent trick, and will read the votes of their members by the light of common sense. They will know well

enough how a Reform Bill may be rejected before it has been produced.

Earl Russell has made a public declaration that the Government over which he presides will stand or fall with their measure for Parliamentary Reform, which is equivalent in effect to a declaration that, if absolutely necessary, an appeal will be made from the present House of Commons to the constituent bodies. This, we have no doubt, the Tory plotters have already taken for granted. Hence the anxiety to force the Ministry out of office on some other question, and that, too, a question upon which, it is supposed, there exists a greater diversity of opinion. The wisdom of this step must be more apparent to its promoters than it is to us. Suppose, for a moment, Earl Russell to be beaten by a vote on the Jamaica question, and suppose that he chooses, as probably he would, to resign his post as the consequence of his defeat. Earl Derby would be sent for, and might succeed in forming a Conservative Government. What then? Mr. Gladstone would, of course, test the new Ministers on the question which they had sought to evade, and a direct vote would be taken under circumstances the most unfavourable that can be conceived for Liberal trimmers. A mouth or so would be lost, but the Reformers would then have the game in their own hands. If the Government be in earnest, as we believe them to be, nothing but the grossest mismanagement can prevent their carrying their Reform Bill, or appealing to the country on that specific question. They will not be so simple as to allow themselves to be driven to a General Election upon a false issue.

JAMAICA.

IF the intelligence which we have received from Jamaica since our last issue is not of the supreme interest with which the details that arrived by some preceding mails have been invested, it is not, perhaps, the less important on that account. The Governor was as self-complacent as ever; the colonists had not done *fêting* the Maroons; and the planters' party were mingling their mutual congratulations with expressions of astonishment at the presumption of the public at home in calling in question the morality and justice of any of their acts. This is, we apprehend, one of the worst features of the whole business. It is true that the *Times*—ever ready to catch at the most superficial excuse for wrongdoing—assumes that the very unanimity of the planters in upholding the remorseless policy of Governor Eyre and his military tools is a proof that they believed that they were doing right, and that the hostile judgment which has been passed upon them at home is premature, if not wholly unjust. But we find that the original story of the repression, instead of being exaggerated, is far exceeded by the reality—when we have every reason to believe that 3,000 instead of 2,000 are the figures which nearest approximate to the number of the slain, and that poor girls (one of them the daughter of a minister) have been barbarously and indecently flogged in the presence of a brutal soldiery for expressing in their own homes the natural indignation which they felt at the treatment their relatives had received at the hands of provost-marshals and blue jackets—we feel, that all that has ever been said against the ruling classes in Jamaica is more than proved by their own boasted feats of cowardice, cruelty, and massacre, and that as a body they have as much given themselves over to the performance of the devil's work as the fetish worshippers of Africa or the Thugs of India. In its biography of Lord Palmerston, the *Times* set up public opinion as the deity to which it uniformly bent the knee; and as that portion of the Jamaica public who have been able to express their views on late events have been loud loud in their enthusiastic approval of Eyre, and Nelson, and Hobbs, our contemporary—acting as it avowedly does on principles which ignore such commonplace things as morality and the rights of black men—is wholly at a loss to perceive why the judgment of the planters, the attorneys, and the middle-men of the island, with their troops of managers, sub-managers, and overseers, should not be accepted as a final verdict in the grand cause of Eyre *v.* the people of England. But apparently it has not occurred to the *Times* that it may turn out that these individuals at Kingston and elsewhere, who have been so eager to pass bills of indemnity, to feast the savage Maroons, and to present swords of honour to the chief executioners at Morant Bay, only represent a fraction of the population of Jamaica, who, having the civil and military authority of the island enlisted on their side, are able to give the fullest expression to their own feelings, while the majority, cowed and intimidated by the cat-o'-nine-tails and the gibbet, are perforce content to hold their tongues, and make no sign of protest or remonstrance until they can do so with comparative safety.

That this is really the case we have ample evidence for assuming, in the shape of private letters which have been received in the country by every mail since the outbreak, and the writers of which, while expressing themselves in language of the most guarded character, plainly indicate what they have it in their hearts to say. Our readers may rely upon it that when Sir Henry Storks arrives in the colony (and before this time he has in all probability reached his destination), many mouths will be opened which are now to all appearances hermetically sealed, and there will be a reaction which will astonish Eyre and his myrmidons. There are some indications of it already, and what we rejoice in still more, is the example which has been furnished in the case of Mr. Levien, the editor of the *County Union*, of the existence in the colony of an element of judicial fairness which shows that the Bench has not wholly sacrificed its independence. Mr. Levien had committed the offence of writing an article *after* the affair at Morant Bay, in which he traced the unhappy collision between the authorities and the coloured people of that parish to the misgovernment of Mr. Eyre. A respected contemporary has fairly compared this diatribe to articles on the Government which are continually appearing in the *Standard* and other Tory organs, and which, however great may be their bad taste, do not expose their writers to the danger of even an action for libel. Mr. Levien, like Mr. Gordon, was hurried off to Morant Bay, under the provisions of an Act which the panic-stricken Legislature had been got to pass. Mr. Levien, instead of sharing Gordon's fate, of which there is no doubt he was in imminent danger, managed to get himself brought before the Chief Justice on a writ of *habeas corpus;* and that eminent functionary not only ordered his release, but decided that the Act of the Legislature was unconstitutional, on the ground that it gave the Governor power to detain persons at will, and significantly added that, for his arbitrary arrest in a locality where martial law had not been proclaimed, he had a remedy. The reader has only to substitute Gordon's name for that of Levien, or the names of any one of the unfortunate persons—the objects, as we believe, of political vindictiveness—who have been put to death under precisely similar circumstances as the ill-fated Gordon; and they will at once perceive what must have been the issue of an appeal to the civil power if that power could have interposed between the so-called courts-martial and the victims of their hurried and indecent judgments.

If anyone still has any doubt, let him read the able and exhaustive "opinion" which Mr. Edward James, Q.C., and Mr. Fitz-James Stephen have drawn up at the instance of the Jamaica Committee. For the first time for many years that creature of usage and precedent rather than of positive enactment, martial law, has been clearly and, we almost say, authoritatively sketched. As great misconception exists on this subject, it may be as well to sum up the gist of Messrs. James and Stephen's opinion in the fewest possible words. Martial law is the abnegation of all law, the will of the commanding-officer. But it has its serious limitations and responsibilities. It can only deal with armed resistance, with persons who are committing acts of violence or who have weapons in their hands It has no power to try traitors or to punish treason; and even in the instance of Wolf Tone, the formidable Irish rebel who was captured after the French had surrendered, and was sentenced to death by court-martial, the Irish Court of Queen's Bench granted a writ of *habeas corpus*—as the Chief Justice of Jamaica has done in the case of Levien—ordering him to be delivered up to the civil authority. For every life that may have been sacrificed, either in excess of what was necessary to suppress armed resistance to the law, or after such resistance had ceased, Governor Eyre and his colleagues are, according to Messrs. James and Stephen's opinion, criminally responsible, and they may be indicted by any private person. One fact is full of significance. The last definite act of violence took place on the 16th of October, and it was not till the 23rd that Gordon was—shall we say?—murdered. The men who committed these deeds stand in a terrible position. Two of our most eminent counsel deliberately affirm that, for the indiscriminate slaughter and flogging which British officers have, in the most flippant way, described with their own pens, the Governor has not, in his despatch, adduced any sufficient warrant. We hope that the inquiry will prove a searching and an impartial one; and that the Government will do its duty without fear or favour. But if either or both should fail, we believe that the Jamaica Committee, which will be represented by two counsel in the colony, will be equal to the grave duties which will then devolve upon it, if the people of this country, and especially the religious bodies, at once perform their part in sustaining a public body which has made good its claim to the confidence of all justice-loving men.

THE PEABODY FUND.

AT a time when the question of making better provision for housing the poor is forced upon public attention by the ravages of typhus fever, the report of the Peabody trustees will serve as an encouragement to all who are engaged in this important department of social reform. It may be remembered that this munificent American merchant made over the sum of 150,000*l.* to be expended for the benefit of the poor of London, and that the trustees eventually decided that they could best carry out the intentions of the princely donor by erecting cheap and comfortable houses—helping the poor to help themselves, instead of squandering this large sum in eleemosynary gifts, which would have the effect of impairing their self-reliance. About one half the fund has been, up to the present time, expended, or rather invested, in new blocks of houses in some of the most wretched parts of London. The trustees have now in use buildings erected in Commercial-street, Spitalfields, and the Lower-road, Islington, providing together for the accommodation of nearly 900 persons. Premises are now nearly completed at Shadwell for some 600 additional persons, and sites have also been bought in Bermondsey and Chelsea. The advantages secured in these comfortable and commodious blocks of houses, at a lower weekly rent than is paid by the poor in their ordinary dwellings, are thus referred to in the report:—

> Drainage and ventilation have been ensured with the utmost possible care; the instant removal of dust and refuse is effected by means of shafts which descend from every corridor to cellars in the basement, whence it is carted away; the passages are all kept clean and lighted with gas without any cost to the tenants; water from cisterns in the roof is distributed by pipes into every tenement, and there are baths free for all who desire to use them. Laundries, with wringing machines and drying lofts, are at the service of every inmate, who is thus relieved from the inconvenience of damp vapours in his apartments and the consequent damage to his furniture and bedding.
>
> Every living-room or kitchen is abundantly provided with cupboards, shelving and other conveniences, and each fireplace includes a boiler and an oven. But what gratifies the tenants perhaps more than any other part of the arrangements are the ample and airy spaces which serve as playgrounds for their children, where they are always under their mothers' eyes, and safe from the risk of passing carriages and laden carts.

It need hardly be said that the two blocks of buildings opened by the Peabody trustees are occupied, and that the number of applicants is considerably in excess of the accommodation available. The tenants are, of course, of a rather superior order, being composed of persons in humble life whose moral characters will bear examination. But no restrictions are imposed on them. The result thus far has been that the inmates of these dwellings are free in their expressions of contentment with the unaccustomed advantages they enjoy. In respect to their moral conduct, it is remarked "that habitual drunkenness is unknown and intoxication infrequent, and where the latter does occur to the annoyance of others, it is judiciously dealt with by giving notice to the offender that, in the event of its recurrence, he must prepare to leave. There has been but one person removed for quarrelling and disturbing the peace, and one expelled for non-payment of rent. These exceptions out of a community consisting of 880 persons, speak strongly for the self-respect and moral principles by which they are influenced."

The report does not state the amount of interest that is likely to accrue from this investment, and it is probable that the buildings have been erected in a more costly style than would be the case if pecuniary results were the chief consideration. By-and-bye, probably, this feature of the enterprise—the houses having been tenanted only two years—will become more prominent. But even if the project be not remunerative—that is, if it returns less than 5 per cent. on the capital sunk, the trustees will be able to continue their benevolent operations for many years to come, perhaps till every squalid locality in the metropolis has its model dwelling-houses for the poor. In this way the managers of the Peabody Fund will be able more effectually to realise their own aims. They wish to set an example to others. They desire, it is remarked in their report, "without coming into undue competition with the owners of house property less favourably circumstanced, to demonstrate to its proprietors the practicability of rendering the dwellings of the labouring poor healthful, cheerful, and attractive, and at the same time securing to the landlords a fair return for their investments."

The difficulty, however, is not so much with the owners as with the leaseholders of such property. While house accommodation in London is so entirely inadequate, the poor take possession of every dilapidated, wretched tenement, and pay such high rents that it becomes highly remunerative to the holder who has no permanent interest in the property. This is the main difficulty in the way of a general improvement of the

dwellings of the poor. The paying question is all important if the houses of our industrial classes are to be made decent and comfortable. The relative weekly rent charged to the poor is stated to be as follows :—

	Peabody Trust.	Average ordinary rate.
	s. d.	s. d. s. d.
A single room ...	2 6	2 6 to 3 0
Two rooms ...	4 0	5 0 „ 5 6
Three rooms ...	5 0	6 0 „ 7 0

Whether, in consideration of the inestimable advantages offered by the Peabody buildings, and all other model dwellings, it would not be expedient to charge a higher rental, and thus approximate to a remunerative standard, is a question deserving serious consideration. There seems to be no fear that these rates would not be cheerfully paid by hundreds of our mechanics and artisans; and though a few would be excluded from the benefits of such accommodation, this evil is of little consequence compared with the importance of clearly demonstrating that comfortable dwellings and rooms could be erected and occupied at a rental which would yield a substantial profit to capitalists. This point appears to us well deserving the attention of any new societies which may be started, such as that proposed by Dr. Burns, for improving the dwellings of the poor. When the whole subject is shifted from its philanthropic basis, and placed upon the ordinary commercial grounds, there is reason to hope that isolated efforts to improve the houses of the poor will be merged in a more general movement, which will by degrees lead to a reconstruction of entire streets and districts at present unfit for habitation.

"TAR US DOWN, MASTER, WITH THE SAME BRUSH."

THIS rough piece of advice was given us, some years ago, by one of the thousand navvies who were digging out the filtering-beds for one of our London waterworks. Living in the neighbourhood, we had cultivated their acquaintance, and had succeeded in persuading the Company to erect a large wooden shed, in which they might eat their meals and smoke their pipes. Feeling our way, little by little, we used to enter into conversation with them, as they lay stretched by the side of the road, resting from their work, and often strolling into their "club-house" and chatting with them as they smoked. Out of these casual meetings there sprung, after a while, a series of "winter evenings," in which, by the help of our brush and our tongue, we were able to get a further hold upon them. The sudden death of one of their number, through an accident, brought us nearer together, and summer coming on, we put before them, once and again, on a Sunday afternoon, one and another of our Lord's parables, and they listened, some standing, and others lying in groups in a field which had been lent for the purpose. It was after this that they began to attend the place of worship where we ministered, one of the first who did so having been overheard saying to his mate, "Blow it, Bill, I'll go and hear that chap preach." We were glad to find that we had not been *preaching* to them, and as many of them took it into their heads to come, we decided on touching, amongst other topics, the old subject of "Master and Man." Falling in with a group of them, soon after making our determination, we announced it, and one of them, who seemed half seas over, gave us the canon which we have placed at the head of this paper.

Underlying these rough words, there is truth which any who intermeddle between Master and Men may do well to acknowledge and remember. They imply, what will be found to be the fact, that, in the opinion of the working classes, the relation between the employed and the employers is in such a condition as to demand that something should be done. The illustration suggests the well-known expedient of tarring outdoor woodwork, to prevent its being injured by the weather. We are not aware of the words being a proverb, or if the author, if author he was, used them with much insight into their meaning. It is just possible that he might, in his gipsy life, have earned a few shillings, by tarring down the whole of the buildings in some farmyard. The hungry look of the weather-beaten barns, and sheds, and palings would have caught his eye, and told him that it was high time that some means should be used for their preservation. The relation of the Employed and the Employer, presents itself with the same aspect to the working-classes. All of them, from the labourer to the artisan, are of one and the same opinion—that something ought to be done.

The navvy not only believed in the necessity for something being done, but he evidently expected that we should resort to an old and well-known remedy, and he spoke as if he were quite willing that it should be applied to himself and his companions. His words do not betray the slightest indisposition to interference. He seems also to admit and to expect that any treatment that would effect a radical cure must be somewhat rough and homely. And the many things which the working classes have suffered at many hands, prove not only that they are conscious that there is something wrong, but that they are only too willing that anything and everything may be tried, if by any means, matters might be mended. Masters have more trouble with men, and men have more trouble with masters, then ever they had. Higher wages, shorter hours, half holidays, institutes, lectures, services, have all been tried, but apparently in vain.

There are many modern inventions, as substitutes for tar, but there has been nothing discovered, since the days of Noah, we believe, not even the anti-corrosive paint, which so effectually keeps out weather, and preserves wood. It is possible, that we shall have to fall back, for the cure of this and other of our social diseases, on a panacea which was in existence, before the ark was pitched within and without, and which has been found from the first day until now, to be the only restorative of either personal or social health.

The special point, however, which our adviser insisted upon, was, that if we touched the subject of master and man at all, we should touch it fairly. There was to be no respect of persons. And it is upon this point that working men feel strongly, as well they may. The man who addressed us was the spokesman for his class. The present condition of the relationship is the result of faults on both sides. It may be said here, with the utmost truth, one is as much to blame as the other. The faults are radically the same in each, though, because of their different position, there is a different development. The root of the whole of the mischief and misery is selfishness. And the men know that their masters are men of like feelings and passions with themselves. Exposure to temptation produces the same result upon each, just as the whole of the out-door woodwork bears signs of its having been open to the weather. If the sin is the same, then all alike must be in the same condemnation. Selfishness must be as criminal in the master as in the man. It may be very wrong, and we have heard some say, that it is very strange, but it is very plain that working men do not exactly see the joke of caring so much for their masters, while their masters care so much for themselves.

Our navvy, in the course of the tarring operation in which we have supposed him to have been engaged, would have come upon some window-frames, and gates, and other woodwork, which had been before painted, and we can imagine that, having often chafed under the respect which fault-finders pay to persons, he would take a peculiar pleasure, and even feel a kind of propriety, in serving everything alike, and tarring down every bit of woodwork with the same brush. We can easily believe, that if he had done this, some fault would have been found with him, and it was, perhaps, the recollection of such a circumstance which led him to give us his advice.

We half suspect that there are some who would be ready to do anything else rather than thank any for their pains, if they hinted to those who employ others that they might not, perhaps, be better than their servants. All those working men's friends, who seem to ignore in their efforts to secure a reform, that the relation of the employed and the employer is an organism, and that there is a common constitution and a common interest between them, will, we are afraid, be slow to receive the suggestion, that their repeated and patent failures are to be attributed to the fact that they have not treated masters and men as if they were members one of another.

There is a book in which the anatomy and physiology of this, as well as of other organisms, may be studied, and which prescribes a remedy for the disorders in all human relationships. The case of master and man is discussed there, and when we turned to consult it, after hearing what the navvy had to say, we found that the gist of his advice might safely be taken. We lit upon one passage which is, as near as it can be, a parallel to his own. In it the duties of servants are elaborately insisted upon, and the passage closes in this manner, "And, ye masters, do the *same* things unto them."

We confess that we have no hope in any treatment which does not touch the constitution, and which does not accept its nature and its laws. Nor have we any fear that the interests of any particular member of the body will suffer, from any well-advised efforts to establish the general health. We are no advocates for the quackery of Socialism as the cure for our social evils, and while believing that the recognition of a common nature, a common interest, and a common salvation, is the only balm which will heal the differences between master and men, we know that there is nothing in this recognition which is likely to destroy, but rather everything in it which is certain to preserve the difference. Christianity does not come to destroy but to fulfil law. Masters and men will still be masters and men, though they be tarred down with the same brush.

Foreign and Colonial.

ITALY.

The Italian Parliament has been prorogued by Royal decree. The decree is preceded by a Ministerial report, explaining that this measure has been adopted in order that the Government may conscientiously examine the important financial and other proposals of the late Ministry, with the object of determining what portions of the said proposals shall be accepted and what portions shall be modified. It is said that the new Government is prepared to reduce the budget of expenditure by about 100,000,000 lire, or four millions sterling.

PRUSSIA.

The session of the Prussian Chambers was opened in the White Saloon of the Royal Palace on Monday by Count von Bismark, who read the Speech from the Throne. The King announces that bills will be brought in settling the budget, and asking for the supplies requisite for the unchanged maintenance of the military reorganisation and the increase of the navy. Supplies will also be asked for the execution of the North Sea and Baltic Canal, and various other measures affecting home administration will be laid before the Chambers. His Majesty expresses a confident hope that the commercial treaty with Italy will be ratified by all the States of the Zollverein. The finances of the kingdom are in a favourable condition. The relations of Prussia with foreign Powers are satisfactory and friendly. The Royal Speech continues :—

By the Gastein Convention Lauenburg has been united to the Prussian Crown. It is my desire, while treating with consideration the peculiar state of things in the Duchy, to allow its inhabitants to enjoy all the advantages of the union with Prussia. The definite decision of the future of Schleswig-Holstein has been reserved by the Gastein Convention for further negotiation. By the occupation of Schleswig, and by her position in Holstein, Prussia has acquired a sufficient guarantee that the decision can only be in a sense corresponding to the interests of Germany and the claims of Prussia. Resting upon my own conviction, strengthened by the opinion of the legal advisers of the Crown, I am determined to hold fast this pledge under all circumstances, until the desired end is attained. Conscious of being sustained by the assent of the people, I hope that the object striven for and gained will prove a point of union for all parties.

The King of Prussia has conferred upon King Victor Emmanuel the insignia of the order of the Black Eagle.

SPAIN.

The official telegrams respecting General Prim are very meagre. He was said to be in the Guadalupe mountains. Generals Zavala and Echague report that they cannot descend into the valleys, and will be obliged to continue the pursuit along the heights, abandoning their horses and baggage. General Prim is stated to have deceived his soldiers by representing that Espartero directed the insurrectionary movement. The Paris *Moniteur* of the 15th says :—"No further doubts are entertained in Madrid that General Prim will be compelled either to surrender or to enter Portugal within the next three days." It is said that Marshal O'Donnell has instructed the troops to force Prim into Portugal, but on no account to capture him. According to a telegram of the 15th from Madrid, the insurgents were still retreating "precipitately" towards Portugal.

There have been some demonstrations by students at Madrid, who assembled at the Puerta del Sol on the 10th shouting, "Long live Prim!" "The working men for ever!" A proclamation was posted on the public buildings stating that the Government would act with great vigour to maintain tranquillity.h

The troops, which had preserved order on the 7tt and 8th inst., in Barcelona, were no longer sufficien on the following day, and the Captain-General, with fresh troops, took command of the garrison. The crowds assembled in the streets, threw stones at the soldiers, and were thereupon summoned three times to disperse, but the disturbances continuing, orders were given to fire on the people. The evening passed off quietly, the troops bivouacking in the public square. Three persons were killed and five wounded. It is announced that order has not again been disturbed at Barcelona, and that tranquillity reigns everywhere.

The Government have demanded the authority of the Senate to arraign General Prim. It is said that the Queen refuses to degrade him.

On receiving a deputation from the Chamber of Deputies to present an Address, the Queen replied that, in spite of the affliction she experienced in viewing the sad sight of a rebellion among a portion of the army, it was for her a great consolation to see the representatives of the nation offering her their support and the testimony of their unanimous loyalty.

SPAIN AND CHILI.

Advices from Valparaiso to December 2nd state that on the 26th of November the Chilian corvette

Esmeralda captured the Spanish gunboat Caodonga with all on board, including some official despatches, after half an hour's engagement off Port Papudo, while *en route* from Coquimbo to Valparaiso. The Esmeralda sustained no damage, and sailed with her prize as convoy. In consequence of this capture the blockade of the Chilian ports had been partly raised.

In Peru, Dictator Prado had begun an extensive system of retrenchment in the Government expenditure, and it was understood that he would assist Chili and refuse to ratify ex-President Pezet's treaty with Spain.

AMERICA.

Intelligence from New York is to January 4th.

It is stated that Senator Wilson has had an interview with President Johnson, in which he informed him that the Radical Republican party disapproved his reconstruction policy, and would not support him if he interfered with Congressional legislation upon reconstruction. Mr. Johnson is represented to have expressed confidence in the present and future success of his reconstruction policy, and refused to give any assurance that he would refrain from interference. The *New York Times*, representing the Conservative Republican party, endorses the policy of the President.

Mr. Seward has set out on a trip to the West Indies for the benefit of his health.

General Strong, who has returned from Texas, reports fearful destitution among the black and white inhabitants. Lawlessness and crime, as well as a spirit of secession and of hostility to the Government, prevail throughout the interior.

The Governor of North Carolina has assumed office, and assured Mr. Johnson of his hearty co-operation in restoring harmonious relations with the Federal Government.

The *Herald* hints that the Mexican question will be settled by a division of Mexico between the United States and Maximilian, the latter ceding to the former the northern provinces, Tamulipas, New Leon, Coahuila, Chihuahua, Sonora, and the peninsula of Lower California. The same paper denies that the French and Federal Governments have arrived at an understanding concerning the Mexican question. It is known, however, it says, that Maximilian has not met his pecuniary engagements with Napoleon for the keep of the French troops in Mexico, and that Napoleon will not support a military force there at his own expense.

The Governor of Ohio has strongly denounced the Monroe doctrine.

The New Hampshire Republican Convention has passed a resolution declaring that it is the urgent duty of the Government to take decisive steps for bringing about the abandonment of Mexico by Maximilian.

The importation of cattle into the United States from Canada has been prohibited by the Federal Government.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

A magnificent Hungarian mantle, trimmed and lined with ermine, is being made at Pesth, for the entry of the Empress of Austria into Hungary. It is to cost 400*l*.

STEPHENS.—The official *Dziennik Warszawski* says that Mr. Stephens, the Fenian, has passed Paris on his way to Geneva, where he intends conferring with M. Herzen and the members of his international revolutionary club. The French police would not allow him to tarry at Paris.

THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT.—From Canada, we are informed that the Hon. Ferguson Blair has accepted the vacant seat in the Cabinet, *vice* the Hon. George Brown, resigned. The despatch states that no change in the policy of the Government regarding the Canadian Confederation has been announced.

PASSPORTS IN GERMANY.—A despatch from the Foreign Office informs us that a Convention has been concluded between the Governments of Bavaria, Saxony, Hanover, and Wurtemburg, by which passports for travellers entering those States are made unnecessary. A traveller may, however, be questioned as to who he is and what he is doing, and he is bound to inform the authorities on these points. Baden and Oldenburgh have given in their adhesion to this Convention, which came into force with the new year.

A MONKISH REBELLION ON MOUNT SINAI.—An Alexandria letter reports a monkish rebellion on Mount Sinai. It appears that Archbishop Cyrille, of the Convent of St. Catherine, having given some cause of offence to his monks, they mutinied in a body, seized his grace, and shut him up in the black hole of the convent. News of the affair having been sent by an adherent of the archbishop to Cairo, the Viceroy has despatched a company of troops to effect the release of the prelate, and restore his authority in the convent.—*Levant Herald*, Jan. 3.

PRICES IN NEW YORK.—A small house in any decent locality with not over four bedrooms cannot be procured for less than 300*l*. Labour is three dollars a-day; beef is selling at 1s. 6d. a pound, and everything else in proportion. A decent overcoat costs 20*l*. The tendency since the close of the war has been, on the whole, upward, instead, as people expected, downward, partly owing to the steady and increasing pressure of taxation and the scarcity of labour, but above all to the continued swelling of the volume of the currency caused by the weekly issue of fresh paper by the National Banks.

THE JESUITS.—The Jesuits have published the statistics of the members of their company. From these it appears that in the Comarca alone there are 475 Jesuits, of whom 385 reside in Rome, and the remainder in the Colleges of Velletri, Frosinone, and Viterbo. There are 173 Jesuits superintending the Roman College; 15 are engaged in directing the journal *Civilta Cattolica*, 18 in the German College, 11 in the College dei Nobile, 13 in the South American College, 54 live in the House of Profession, 79 are assigned to the novitiate, and 28 remain in the House of Refuge. At the end of 1864 there were 7,728 members of the Jesuit order in the Catholic world, being 129 more than in 1863. The order is divided into twenty-one provinces, of which four belong to France, five to Germany, Belgium, and Holland, two to Spain, five to Italy, one to Mexico, and the other four are distributed in England, Ireland, and the United States. In 1864 there were 1,532 Jesuits employed in foreign missions, being an increase of 242 over the year 1863. The European missions amounted to 28, the Asiatic to 296, the African to 213, the North American to 276, the South American to 199, the Oceanian to 55, and 15 were on passage. Twenty-five years ago, namely in 1841, there were but 3,563 Jesuits, so that since that period the number has been more than doubled.

AN AMERICAN PETITION FOR FEMALE SUFFRAGE.—The following petition is in circulation in the United States, and is to be presented on the reassembling of Congress:—"To the Senate and House of Representatives.—The undersigned, women of the United States, respectfully ask an amendment of the constitution that shall prohibit the several States from disfranchising any of their citizens on the ground of sex. In making our demand for the suffrage we would call your attention to the fact that we represent 15,000,000 people—one half the entire population of the country—intelligent, virtuous, native-born American citizens; and yet we are the only class who stand outside the pale of political recognition. The constitution classes us as 'free people' and counts us whole persons in the basis of representation, and yet we are governed without our consent, compelled to pay taxes without appeal, and punished for violation of law without choice of judge or juror. The experience of all ages, the declaration of the fathers, the statute laws of our own day, and the fearful revolution through which we have just passed, all prove the uncertain tenure of life, liberty, and property, so long as the ballot—the only weapon of self-protection—is not in the hand of every citizen. Therefore, as you are now amending the constitution, and, in harmony with advancing civilisation, placing new safeguards round the individual rights of 4,000,000 of emancipated slaves, we ask that you extend the rights of suffrage to women—the only remaining class of disfranchised citizens—and thus fulfil your constitutional obligation 'to guarantee to every State in the Union a republican form of Government.' As all partial application of Republican principles must ever breed a complicated legislation as well as a discontented people, we would pray your honourable body, in order to simplify the machinery of Government and ensure domestic tranquillity, that you legislate hereafter for persons, citizens, taxpayers, and not for class or caste. For justice and equality your petitioners will ever pray."

AMERICAN BELIEFS.—I do not think I could find at this moment a man in the North who does not believe firmly that every inch of British territory on this continent will one day belong to the United States; but outside the Fenians I doubt if I could find one in a hundred who does not believe that the work of annexation will be done by the inhabitants of the English possession themselves, and be done peacefully under the irresistible attraction of American progress and prosperity and happiness. And this idea has derived great confirmation from the result of the war and from the prodigious strides which the great central and Pacific States and territories are making in wealth, in population, and let me add, in education, religion, order, and morality, and from the great migration of Canadians into the United States which is now witnessed along the whole border every day. In fact, go where you will you find the conviction strong and deep that the American Republic has but to "stand and wait"; that the ideas which are embodied in her polity will work out their own triumph; that the magnificent spectacle of her internal progress is a more potent argument in favour of sharing her destiny than any army or fleet could ever furnish; and that her most powerful means of conquest lies in affording every day fresh proofs that she lives, not for codes, or creeds, or classes, or dynasties, but for man. I sat a few mornings ago, at breakfast, beside a wealthy merchant from the West—an elderly man, and the architect of his own fortunes, and perhaps one of the greatest mine-owners, railroad-owners, and land-owners in the world. In any European country he would probably either be scrambling for a peerage, or occupied in wiping out the traces from himself and his children of any connection with the class from which he sprang. If, however, you could have witnessed the enthusiasm with which he spoke of what labour may accomplish in the region in which he lives, if you could have seen how his eyes glowed and his face flushed when he told of the wonderful endings he saw every day to small beginnings, of the marvellous resources of that great Mississippi valley, of the millions and millions of people it will maintain in comfort, you would have felt, as I felt, the difficulty of conveying to Englishmen any accurate idea of the nature of the springs by which the Union is maintained and spread, and of the folly of judging of its prospects by any European standard.—*Daily News Correspondent.*

THE MARQUIS D'AZEGLIO died at Turin on Monday last. He was born in Turin, 1800, and was the descendant of an ancient Piedmontese family. From his infancy he was of a proud and fiery spirit. At the age of fourteen he showed the door to his first master, an ecclesiastic, for venturing to treat him harshly. For this he was excommunicated, and it was a long time before he could make his peace with his family and the church. He devoted himself with great ardour to music and painting at a very early age, and in the latter branch of the arts specimens of his pencil are to be seen in the galleries of the Louvre and of Turin. In obedience to his father he entered the military service as officer in the Piedmontese cavalry; but his heart was in the arts, and an illness, induced by severe study, caused him to leave the army. He studied in Rome for eight years as an artist. He returned to Turin in 1829. The year following he went to Milan, where painting was in a flourishing state, and here he became acquainted with Manzoni, and married his daughter. It was under the influence of Manzoni that Azeglio devoted himself to literature, and produced his story of "Ettore Fieramosca" (1833), a work inspired by the purest patriotism, and which was hailed in Italy with great enthusiasm. A second novel, "Niccolo di Lappi" (1841), had an equal success. From this time M. d'Azeglio was regarded as one of the first representatives of Italian nationality; and, deserting his favourite studies, he became an active propagandist of the political views which led to the Revolution of 1848, but never was a member of any conspiracy. When the insurrections of Rimini and the Romagna broke out, he published his celebrated work, "The Last Events in the Romagna," wherein, while blaming the insurrection, he attacked the Government of the Pope, and demonstrated the necessity of a national policy. After the revolution of 1848, he supported measures relating to the freedom of the press, the reform of the Papacy, emancipation of the Jews, &c. Under Victor Emmanuel II. he was named President of the Council of Ministers, 11th of May, 1849. In 1852, he was replaced by his rival Cavour, and has since taken no active part in politics.

GENERAL PRIM.—I have seen General Prim lately, and had sufficiently long interviews with him. He is a man considerably below the middle size, with a small and slender, but apparently wiry and extremely active frame, a bright, lively, intelligent countenance, with a very bad complexion, the visible result of that liver complaint under which he is well known to labour. His eyes are large and expressive; his features are tolerably regular, with no other marked peculiarity than the high cheek-bones. His manners are courteous and winning; he speaks fluently, and expresses himself forcibly, and not inelegantly, both in his native language and in French. He showed me an English paper on the table before him, and told me the written language was easy to him, though he made no attempt to speak it. Whenever I went to the General's house in Calle de Alcala, I found the antechamber, and even his own cabinet, crowded with gentlemen, who had apparently no other business than that of dancing attendance upon the great man. In the presence of these Prim addressed me in French, when *tête-à-tête* he preferred his own idiom. Notwithstanding his wife's considerable wealth, Prim was lately said to have exceeded his means, and to be deeply in debt. He is a man of extravagant habits, passionately addicted to the pleasures of the chase, for the gratification of which he has bought very extensive grounds, has built a large house, and keeps up a most extensive establishment. In pursuit of these pleasures, or, perhaps, under pretext of them, he has made his premises and his hunting-grounds the rendezvous of characters of every description, townsmen from Madrid, no less than Catalans, who are as ready to lend him a hand at a battue as at a political *echaffourée*, such as he is now engaged in. His country-house at Villarubia is said to have hiding-places where hundreds of bandits could be secreted, and away in the woods and deep in the gorges of the Toledo mountains, he has built huts, hunting-boxes, and all kinds of sheds, as available for the purposes of war as for the requirements of the chase. Here, in the centre of a whole region devoted and familiar to him, he has chosen the theatre of his revolutionary exploits. Here, as well as in many parts of Catalonia, he is said to have stores of arms and ammunition. Here, or wherever else he may go, it is supposed that followers will not fail to flock to him. A man of great restlessness of ambition, and of corresponding versatility of mind, General Prim has always been unscrupulous as to the means by which his aim could be attained. Not a little slippery as to political principles, and too free in many matters, he is supposed to have some of the vices that go as far towards making a Cataline as a Cæsar. Whether his present enterprise is more in the style of the latter or of the former, and whether it will lead to the fate of the one or of the other, the lapse of a few days will show us.—*Madrid Correspondent of the Times.*

PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S "RECEPTION" ON NEW YEAR'S DAY.—The New York papers contain accounts of the President's reception on New Year's Day. It was a subject of comment that at the reception none of the diplomatic corps recognised or spoke to the Mexican Minister, evidently not recognising him as a representative from any Government. Signor Romero was cordially received by President Johnson, but remained only a few moments in the reception room, leaving before the other Ministers. The scene that followed is thus described:—"The diplomatic corps, the Cabinet, the army and navy officers, having taken their departure, President Johnson nerved himself for a friendly muscular struggle with the vigorous *bourgeoisie*. Policemen were stationed along the route to and from the Blue-room. United States Marshal Gooding and Colonel O'Beirne took up their positions

near the President, and the joyous well-wishing populace were admitted, keeping step to the incomprehensible music of *Tannhauser*, carefully rendered by the Marine band. The lively young ladies from East Tennessee were in a state of most interesting expectation. Mrs. Stover and Mrs. Patterson rose and smiled cheerfully, while the President's face belied those engravings which represent him as a man with no mirth in his composition. All classes approached at the rate of thirty per minute, and enjoyed the inestimable privilege of looking their great friend in the face and shaking him by the hand. Both the Presidential hands were steadily employed for a time, and their owner had a pleasant smile and a good word for each comer. His affectionate, simple greeting to the children in the throng was particularly noticeable, and was remarked by all. Big-hearted people afterwards remarked, as they gossipped in the East Room, that the President's success in putting little people at their ease was a sure indication of his excellence as a man. Nearly four thousand citizens paid their respects to the President before the reception hour expired. After two o'clock a large number of coloured citizens were admitted to the congratulatory circle, as their white brothers had been before them. This was the first time in the annals of the Republic, and there appears to be no reason why it should not be repeated. Their hearty good wishes for the President's welfare, their 'God bless you's!' and invocations for a happy new year and many returns, were audibly and respectfully expressed, and plentiful enough to set Mr. Johnson up with a stock of benisons to last until another reception." At night, we are not surprised to learn, the President was much fatigued, his hand and arm being badly swollen, from much shaking. The coloured people on being admitted manifested their gratification in a demonstrative manner. Most of them mistook Marshal Gooding for the President, and passed on after shaking hands with him. A great many shook hands with everyone they could reach in the reception room with a ludicrous air of bewilderment.

JAMAICA.

Advices from Jamaica to the 25th of December have been received by the Royal Mail steamship Tasmanian, which arrived at Southampton on Saturday evening.

The Bill to repeal an Act passed in the recent Session to amend the Political Constitution of the Island, and transferring the government of the colony to the Imperial Government, passed the House of Assembly on the 20th.

On the 12th of December the following extracts from a despatch of the Colonial Secretary were laid before the House of Assembly:—

Downing-street, Nov. 17, 1865.

Sir,—By the mail from the West Indies, the arrival of which did not take place until yesterday, I have received your despatch No. 251, of the 20th of October, reporting the breaking out of a rebellion of the negroes in the eastern districts of Jamaica, which has involved the cruel massacre of many of the principal white and coloured persons in that part of the island, and acquainting me with the measures which, in concert with the officers in command of her Majesty's military and naval forces, you have taken to suppress the insurrection, and to prevent its spreading to other parts of the island.

2. I have been greatly shocked by the barbarities which you describe, and I wish you in the first place to inform the inhabitants of Jamaica how deeply her Majesty's Government deplore the losses which the colony in general has sustained, and how sincerely they sympathise with those who have to lament family bereavements incurred under circumstances so distressing.

3. I will not fail to bring under the notice of the Field-Marshal Commanding-in-Chief and the Lords of the Admiralty the high sense you entertain of the services rendered by Major-General O'Connor and Captain D'Horsey, R.N., and the other officers of the army and navy whom you mention, and of the sailors and marines under their orders. And it is with the greatest satisfaction that I receive the high, and I doubt not deserved, commendation which you bestow upon the members of the Executive Committee, the custos of Kingston, Inspector Ramsey of the police, the volunteer and the militia officers who accompanied you in the Wolverine.

9. I recognise with great satisfaction the alacrity with which the well-affected subjects of her Majesty placed themselves at your disposal, and I shall bring under her Majesty's special notice the loyal and gallant behaviour of the Maroons.

I have, &c.,
E. CARDWELL.

Governor Eyre, &c.

Previous to the introduction of the message referred to above, and the presentation of extracts from Mr. Cardwell's despatch, the following message from the Governor was read in the House of Assembly:—

The Governor has much pleasure in laying before the legislature an extract from a despatch which he has received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies in reference to the late rebellion. The Governor also takes this opportunity of acquainting the legislature that so convinced are her Majesty's Government of the paramount importance of a strong government being at once constituted in Jamaica, that he has been confidentially informed (and which, under existing circumstances, he feels justified in communicating to the legislature) that although for many years the disposition and practice of the Crown has been rather to devolve on colonial representative bodies the powers and responsibilities of government than either to keep the powers it possessed, or to assume powers and responsibilities which had not hitherto belonged to it, yet in a case in which the Crown's deprivation of power is incompatible with the welfare and even the safety of the colony, there would be no hesitation on the part of her Majesty's Government to accept any amount of additional responsibility which circumstances might seem to require. Under this expressed willingness on the part of the Crown to deviate from its ordinary policy and practice, and to undertake the responsibility of directing the affairs of Jamaica for the future, the Governor would respectfully invite the legislature so to amend the Act recently passed to alter and amend the Constitution as would leave her Majesty unfettered in determining the character of the future Constitution and the administrative machinery by which the business of the country is to be conducted.—E. E.

Parliament was prorogued on the 22nd December. His Excellency delivered the following speech:—

Mr. President and Hon. Gentlemen of the Legislative Council; Mr. Speaker and Hon. Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,—In releasing you from further attendance upon your legislative duties, I cannot lose sight of the probability that you may never be called upon to exercise those duties again under the existing form of constitution; and that this generous sacrifice has been consummated by yourselves from an earnest and sincere design, regardless of all personal considerations, to benefit the colony. On behalf of that colony, and of the many interests connected with it, I return you the thanks which are so justly your due. History will record the heroic act, and I trust that history will show from the ameliorated state of the country and a new prosperity that your noble self-devotion has not been in vain. It is right, however, that I should warn you not to expect this amelioration, or this return of prosperity to take place suddenly. It is a work of time and labour to retrieve fallen fortunes, or to reconstruct that which is in a state of decadence and decay, and doubly so must this be the case in dealing with the circumstances of a colony which, like Jamaica, has long been retrograding, is difficult of supervision from its great extent and physical features, and requires an expenditure in excess of the means which its impoverished condition can properly supply. I believe, however, that you have taken the only course which holds out any hope of success, and I am confident that the best efforts both of her Majesty's Government and of the local administration will be most anxiously and unceasingly directed to attain that success, and thereby justify the confidence you have so generously reposed in the Crown.

Mr. Speaker, and Honourable Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,—I thank you for the supplies you have granted to her Majesty. It will be the earnest endeavour of the Executive to apply the means you have placed at its disposal as economically and as usefully as possible.

Mr. President, and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council; Mr. Speaker, and Honourable Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,—The session which is now about to terminate has been the most important that has ever taken place since Jamaica became a dependency of the British Crown. It is impossible to help regretting the necessity which has enforced the abandonment of institutions so deservedly dear to every British heart, and which ever in this colony have remained unchanged for a period of two hundred years, but it is wiser and better, circumstanced as we are, to give up institutions which were valued rather for the associations which are connected with them than for any advantages which have resulted to the colony from their existence in Jamaica, and to substitute in their place a perhaps less showy and less time-honoured form of government, but which is certainly more practicable and better suited to the altered circumstances of our position. Well I think it is that we have taken warning by the terrible circumstances which have forced upon us the conviction that a government, to be effective in times of difficulty and danger, must be a strong and united one, and well will it be if by a voluntary reconstruction the community may receive some compensation in future good government for the dreadful calamity with which it has just been afflicted. Gentlemen, in dismissing you to your homes I am happy to think that the precautions taken for preserving the tranquillity and security of the country districts are likely to be successful, and I earnestly trust that the feeling of disaffection and excitement which so strongly pervaded a portion of our population, but which, so far as I am aware, rests upon no just or valid grounds, may shortly subside, and the entire colony be again speedily restored to that feeling of perfect confidence and security which existed prior to the occurrence of the late unhappy outbreak. In quitting one sphere of usefulness, gentlemen, you do but return to another, for it is at your own homes, and by your own examples, influence, and teaching that the rural population must be guided and directed, if they are to become a useful, prosperous, and contented people. I do now, in her Majesty's name, prorogue this General Assembly to Tuesday, the 30th January next, and it is hereby prorogued accordingly.

Additional news of the indignation aroused throughout Great Britain by the massacre of the negroes had reached the colony. One of the leading newspapers of Jamaica, the *Morning Journal*, informs its readers that the only London papers "that venture upon the defensive are the *Times* and the *Telegraph*, and the *Times* even condemns the trial of Mr. Gordon by martial law, and expresses the hope, in common with all the other journals, 'that there will be a full inquiry into everything connected with the outbreak.'" The *Morning Journal* adds:—"*The people of Jamaica also desire such a commission.*"

The *Falmouth Post* says:—"The missionaries of the parishes of St. Ann, St. James's, and Trelawny, we learn, have sent memorials to the Queen, praying her Majesty to appoint a commission of inquiry into the causes of the late rebellion. It is their desire that the commissioners should be sent from England for this purpose. It was exceedingly impolitic and unwise in the executive committee to oppose inquiry when it was proposed in the House of Assembly. We hold that the public are entitled to know from the legislature what, after patient and thorough investigation, appear to them to have been the causes of the rebellion, and why it was necessary to act with extreme rigour after it had been suppressed."

The *Colonial Standard* replies to the severe strictures of the English press, and defends the conduct of the authorities in suppressing the "rebellion." Speaking of the commission, it says:—

The British public are anxious, apparently, to know something more about Jamaica than they formerly cared about. There can be no doubt that Commissioners will come from the mother country, unbiassed and honest, by whom all secrets will be exposed, and against whom "private and confidential correspondence" will not prevail. Mr. Westmorland, and those like him, may realise their views at first; but as sure as that the British nation is one that loves fair play, everyone in the end will meet his due. We, therefore, in spite of all, see nothing but good ultimately to result from an unconditional surrender of our Government to the Queen.

With regard to the execution of Gordon, the same paper remarks, that "people who have never seen the evidence against him assume that he was judicially murdered. They cannot tell the origin of the rebellion, and would pronounce upon the guilt or the innocence of its chief promoter.

"The evidence in the case of Gordon will probably be published before long, and it will be seen then, that even before a civil tribunal he would have been convicted. It scarcely needs argument to prove that the prompt execution of this man, under the circumstances, was highly important. The urgency of the moment would not allow of his being handed over to the slow process of the civil tribunals. His position as a criminal awaiting trial would have been a perpetual danger. It might be more regular to try a man in the ordinary way, but 'circumstances alter cases,' and in the public emergency then subsisting such a course as regards Gordon would have been highly dangerous."

During the reign of terror and existence of martial law at Morant Bay, Mr. Sydney Levien, editor of the *County Union*, an opposition paper published at Jamaica, wrote an article in which he declared that the outbreak was the natural consequence of Mr. Eyre's misgovernment, his disregard of justice in the prior proceedings against Mr. Gordon, his failure to give reasonable support to native industry, and his general neglect of duty. These opinions were expressed in language, strong as regards Governor Eyre, but thoroughly loyal as regards the Sovereign and supreme authority. They were interspersed with some personal allusions to the Governor's private habits. For this offence, however (if there was any other it is not stated), Mr. Levien was arrested, put in prison, and sent to Morant Bay. His trial did not, however, come on during the period of martial law, and Mr. Levien remained in custody when martial law was abrogated. But the island Legislature was by that time in session, and had passed "an Act to provide for the trial and punishment of offences committed during martial law, and for a limited time thereafter." We do not learn whether Mr. Levien was brought up for trial under this Act, but, at all events, he found means to bring his arrest and detention under the consideration of the regular courts, and judges who are trained in a knowledge of English law and principles of justice. The result was that the Chief Justice of Jamaica discharged him from custody, on the express ground that the Act of the Legislature was unconstitutional, inasmuch as it gave the Governor power to detain persons at his will; and that if an order to detain Mr. Levien for ninety days was good, one to detain him for ninety weeks, or for ever, would be good also—a power which (said his honour) ought not to be entrusted to any Governor. We are told that his honour declined to go into the other grounds raised, but, with regard to Mr. Levien's arrest in a parish where martial law did not exist, he stated that Mr. Levien had his redress. The *Colonial Standard* of the 12th December, says:—"We understand Mr. Levien is about shortly to leave for England to place his case in person before her Majesty's Ministers."

The following is an extract of a private letter recently received from Jamaica:—

I have made some extensive excursions over the island, and my health is much better. I shall thoroughly do the island before I leave, for I much prefer it to Cuba. The only thing that has marred my pleasure is the bloody tragedy that has been acted here, and the hate and ruin it has produced. I have visited Morant Bay and other sites of the ghastly scenes that have been enacted here. I was taken to the ruined cottage of a poor black woman whose husband was flogged and hung in mistake. The poor woman narrowly escaped the same fate. Some rascal informed against them as disloyal and, owing to the funk of the Government and the promptness of the military, the man was flogged and strung up. She was suckling a woolly-headed piccaninny, while her other small ebonies were chasing an old turkey cock, the only one out of a large flock that escaped the vigilance of the military foragers. This poor woman's fate is a mournful one, but it is no worse than that of a great many. She and her husband were industrious and thriving before these wretched disturbances. I have visited two of the estates of Gordon. His brain, I should think, was affected with political excitement, and he ought to have had a straight jacket rather than a halter. The hatred of the whites towards him is something unaccountable. I heard an influential man rejoice over his death, and because no Exeter Hall howlings would bring him to life again. His wife, I believe, would have shared his fate only she happened to be white. I see by the English papers you sent me that you are making a great fuss about Jamaica. There is a talk here of resistance to any illegal interference of the Home Government. What if we should have a Bunker's-hill, if the Maroons should defeat the British troops, if the planters should issue a declaration of independence, re-enslave Quashee, Jumbo, and Sambo, and Jamaica become a Republic with a corner-stone of slavery? But seriously I think the wisest thing for the Home Government to do is to quietly give Eyre a berth where not much judgment is required, and blab as little as possible about the proceedings here, for there have been atrocious blunderings.

We (*Leeds Mercury*) announce with much pleasure that our respected townsman, Mr. Thomas Harvey,

and Mr. William Brewin, of Cirencester, will sail for Jamaica by the next mail-steamer. They go out on a mission of inquiry, with the sanction and under the encouragement of the Society of Friends. It will be remembered that Mr. Harvey was the companion of the late Joseph Sturge on his philanthropic visit to the West Indies twenty-nine years ago. The special object of this second visit to the largest of our West India possession is to form as accurately as possible a comparative view of the state of the population now with that which presented itself to the observation of the travellers in 1837. We look for the results of this comparison with deep interest. All who know our fellow-townsman will agree with us that no one could have been chosen better fitted than he by impartiality and soundness of judgment, by scrupulous regard for truth as well as by an intelligent benevolence, for ascertaining the difference between the religious, social, and material condition of Jamaica in 1837 and in 1866.

SNOWSTORM AND DESTRUCTIVE GALES.

On the night of Wednesday last there was a heavy fall of snow and high winds in the South of England.

The snowstorm was so severe that on Thursday morning not only were the principal thoroughfares of London comparatively blocked up, but every telegraph line was broken, and the metropolis was for the time isolated. Snow commenced to fall about the same time in Scotland, but caused only temporary interruptions to the ordinary traffic. The storm did not reach the north of England until midnight on Thursday; snow then fell for about three hours, and was accompanied by a severe frost. At Walworth a telegraph wire broke, caught a man round the waist and dragged him into the Grand Surrey Canal, but he was fortunately extricated. On the different lines of railway leading into and out of the metropolis the snow had such a blinding effect upon the firemen and drivers, that they could scarcely distinguish the signal-posts, and in many places fog signals were used. The guards upon the Mid-Kent and South-Western lines assert that during their experience they never encountered such a fearful snowstorm. Taking the river Thames from Teddington-locks to Batterses-bridge the eye could detect all sorts of small craft sunk in the water, and only held together by their ropes; and even coal barges had been forced under water by the weight of the snow and sleet that had fallen upon them. During Thursday evening and early on Friday morning there was another fall of snow in and around London. Many parts of the south-western districts leading out of London were five or six feet deep in congealed snow. This state of the roads make it extremely difficult for horses drawing heavy vehicles to pass along, and in some places the traffic was suspended. The omnibus fares were increased, and only a few vehicles allowed on the road. The common cabs used additional horses. The streets in the heart of the City were in an indescribable state, and the indignation against the authorities was boundless. Owing to the delay in the trains and the state of the roads, the supply of milk in London was totally inadequate to the demand.

On Saturday morning a rapid thaw set in, and by night almost every trace of snow had disappeared. Naturally this rapid melting did considerable damage. Streams were swollen so that they burst their banks and inundated the country round. Especially was this the case at Lewisham, where the usually harmless Ravensbourne swelled into a big river, drove its waters up the streets of the place, and inundated the houses, doing great damage. But a more serious result of the rapid thaw was seen in a very serious accident which happened on the London, Chatham, and Dover main line on Sunday morning. That line near to Beckenham crosses a streamlet on a bridge about 40ft. in length. The brook was greatly swollen, and the foundations of one at least of the piers of the bridge appear to have been sapped. A passenger train passed safely over the bridge at midnight on Saturday; but about an hour afterwards, while a goods train was crossing, a pier of the bridge gave way, and the whole of the train was precipitated into the stream or the fields beyond. The driver escaped almost miraculously, but the fireman was jammed to death; and all the efforts that could be made on Sunday failed until a late hour to extricate his crushed body. The guards of the train were, fortunately, but little hurt.

One of the most melancholy disasters is reported from Great Yarmouth. A lifeboat manned by sixteen sturdy seamen left the shore on the errand of saving some of their brethren who were in peril by the storm; but scarcely had they crossed the bar when the boat capsized, and twelve of the brave fellows were drowned.

In the neighbourhood of Taunton, too, the sudden thaw caused the water to rise upon the highways to the height of four or five feet, and in one portion of that town 200 houses were for the time uninhabitable owing to the flood. The Bristol and Exeter Railway was also flooded, putting a temporary stop to the traffic upon it. It is said that some fifty miles of telegraphic wire was destroyed along the Devonshire railways. At Torbay on Wednesday night there was an awful scene. Sixty ships, of various nationalities, and of all sizes, were at anchor on Wednesday night. The wind blew a fearful gale, and shifted round to the southward, and then to the south-east. Many of them attempted to work out of the bay, but were unable to do so. The incumbent of Brixham gives the following particulars of the destruction of life and property by the gale:—

We find that there were certainly sixty-two sail in the bay when the gale came on, and of these there were riding in the bay after the storm, ten; in the harbour, ten; wrecked on the coast or foundered in the bay, forty-two. There were besides eight trawl sloops sunk and wrecked.

From all we can learn there were no emigrant ships or vessels carrying more than their own crews, and we have therefore taken seven as the average per ship, which gives 294 hands on board the wrecks, and of these there have been clothed, fed, and sent home 131. Foreigners still remaining in Brixham under care of consuls 50, still on board of partially wrecked vessels and at work in saving cargoes, forty—total, 221; leaving seventy-three who are supposed to have lost their lives; also four fishermen of Brixham, making a total of seventy-seven.

From the accounts of wrecks along the coasts we imagine that the valuable society which provides for shipwrecked mariners will not be able to meet such heavy demands, and therefore we should be most anxious to be able to place funds at their disposal for those sent from this port, and towards the expense of widows and orphans who may be thrown upon them by this sad catastrophe.

There has been a subscription raised in Brixham, which at present amounts to a little over 100*l*. But as yet we have had little time to do much in the way of collection, our whole time has been taken up in attending to the poor fellows who were cast on shore without a rag to their backs. The scene here baffles all description, and the crowds who have flocked here have been astonished at the sight. Just outside our pier, within 300 yards, lie eleven vessels in one undistinguishable mass. In one corner there were seven vessels jumbled up in small pieces in a few minutes, and yesterday the men were walking over a wide space of floating wreck which might have been taken for the clearings of a shipwright's yard.

The masters we have consulted all give it as their opinion that no sailing vessels got out of the bay, but we yesterday heard that the Alma schooner did beat out, and got into Exmouth Bight much damaged. We should be happy to hear if any others were as fortunate.

We have four widows of fishermen and thirteen orphans left, and, owing to the loss of eight trawlers and the damage to nearly all the rest of the fleet, many men will be out of work for some time. About thirty men and ten boys lost their clothes.

The estimated loss of property in ships and cargoes is from 150,000*l*. to 200,000*l*.

In the same gale along the same coast, the missionary ship John Williams had a narrow escape—

PORTLAND, MONDAY AFTERNOON.—The missionary ship John Williams, commanded by a captain of the same name, having on board five missionaries, named Alexander Mickie, S. H. Davis, A. T. Saville, J. Chalmers, and J. Watson, and their wives, put into Portland Roads, on Friday morning, owing to injuries received in the late gale. She left London on Thursday week, bound for Adelaide and other parts of Australia, Van Diemen's Land, and from thence to the islands of the South Pacific. She is laden principally with articles required for the various mission stations, such as books, stationery, &c., and also with articles for bartering in such places where money was not much valued. The day after the good ship left London was very fine, but soon after the weather became threatening, and dispelled the hope that the first Sunday at sea would be a joyful one, the weather on that and the following day being very rough. On Sunday night there appeared to be every indication of a storm, as the barometer fell lower than Captain Williams had ever known it before. He did all in his power to put the ship in proper order, and although the weather was very rough for two or three days, it was not until nine o'clock on Thursday morning, when the full force of the gale which has caused so much destruction amongst shipping on the west part of the coast, caught her, striking the ship on her side, tearing away the whale-boat from the davits, a circumstance much regretted by the captain, as it was specially built to stem the heavy surf which surrounds the islands in the South Pacific. The gale also blew away the fore topsail, causing one of the spars to break. The fury of the gale was such that every stitch of canvas was compelled to be taken off, with the exception of her foremast staysail and close-reefed mizen. The ship then drove before the wind for several hours, it was feared to the leeward, which would bring her on the French coast, or somewhere near the Caskets. The ship, however, answered her helm so beautifully that this dire calamity was averted, making better way than was anticipated, reaching two knots an hour, causing her to keep to windward more than was expected. At one time the ship was in such a dangerous position that the captain and passengers gave themselves up for lost, such was the violence of the sea, and every probability of drifting on a rugged coast. Under these trying circumstances, prayer and praise were offered up, when, as if in response to it, towards the afternoon the fury of the elements was abated, and the hearts of the passengers and crew made glad by sighting the English coast, St. Alban's Head. After much trouble, the John Williams succeeded in reaching Portland Roads, and anchored in safety beneath the protection afforded by the magnificent harbour of refuge, with the breakwater there constructed. One of the lady passengers, Mrs. Mickie, was thrown from her bed, and received some injury. The pilot was also injured during the storm, being thrown on his head and rendered insensible for a short time. The missionaries came on shore at Weymouth, where they were most hospitably entertained by several of the members of the religious denomination to which they belonged. Mrs. Mickie was attended by Dr. Tizard, and it is anticipated she will be able to resume her voyage. On Sunday two of the missionaries preached in two chapels at Weymouth, where, in course of their sermons, they described the perils to which they had already been exposed. Intelligence of this safe arrival at Portland of the John Williams was speedily despatched to London, and soon after one of the secretaries, Mr. Robinson, who had not heard anything of the vessel since she had been seen off Broadstairs, left London for Weymouth, and the joyful intelligence was then disseminated to other parts of her safe arrival in Portland Roads.

The Bank Charter Act finds numerous opponents in Liverpool, and a petition for its abolition has been extensively signed there.

THE MINISTRY AND THE COMING SESSION.

Mr. H. Fenwick, M.P. for Sunderland, has accepted the office of Lord of the Admiralty, vacant by the appointment of Mr. Childers as Financial Secretary of the Treasury.

The London correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* mentions a rumour that Mr. Stansfeld is likely to succeed Sir Charles Wood as Secretary for India, the health of Sir Charles having suffered seriously by his late accident in the hunting-field.

Lord Dufferin, the present Under-Secretary for India, is spoken of as the probable successor of Mr. Goschen at the Board of Trade.

Mr. Gladstone, as leader of the House of Commons, has issued his circular to the members who sit on the Ministerial side of the House. He informs them that the House will meet on the 1st of February for the choice of a Speaker, and on the 6th for the despatch of business, and hopes it will be "consistent with their convenience" to attend.

Mr. Disraeli, as leader of the Opposition, has issued a circular, inviting the attendance of his friends on the 6th February, when the Queen's speech will be delivered, and "business of great importance may be under consideration."

The *Sunday Gazette* says that Mr. Gregory has been offered office.

A Cabinet Council was held on Saturday afternoon and yesterday at the official residence of Earl Russell, in Downing-street.

A formidably large number of Liberal M.P.'s—belonging, for the most part, not to the extreme, but to the moderate section—are, we learn, strongly disposed to resist any Reform Bill dealing only with the question of suffrage, chiefly on the ground that the present system has evils which a mere lowering of the franchise would rather aggravate than modify.—*Scotsman.*

THE CATTLE PLAGUE.

The cattle-plague returns show that there was a great increase in the number of animals attacked the week before last. In the week ending December 30 the total number reported as attacked was 7,693; last week the number was 9,120, or an increase of 1,427. The total number of animals which, up to last Saturday, had died of the disease was 47,192, and the number killed was 14,519, making a total of 61,711. Taking the number of horned cattle in the country, as estimated, at about seven millions, it follows that the disease has been the cause of death of nearly nine animals in every thousand, or not quite one per cent.

At a meeting of the Middlesex magistrates on Thursday the report of a committee appointed by that body to consider what measures were necessary to mitigate the evils of the cattle plague was circulated; and a deputation of salesmen was admitted to an interview with the magistrates on the subject. The committee then proceeded to reconsider the resolutions to which they had previously come. Eventually several amended resolutions were reported to the general meeting of magistrates—the effect of which is to prevent the removal of cattle along the roads in Middlesex, except in certain cases, within a radius of four miles of Charing Cross. The magistrates generally adopted the recommendations of the committee.

Numerous deputations of those interested in the cattle trade have waited upon different bodies of magistrates, asking their advice and assistance in enabling them to understand these orders. On Monday, one of these deputations attended at the Dewsbury petty sessions, to seek the aid of Mr. Greenwood, who, as a barrister and formerly a police magistrate, they not unnaturally supposed would be able to explain the regulation recently adopted at the West Riding Sessions. Mr. Greenwood, however, was compelled candidly to acknowledge his inability to assist the deputation, stating that although he had read the order with as much care as if it had been a new Act of Parliament, he could not understand it.

REPRESENTATION OF TIVERTON.—Sir John Hay, who was defeated at the last election for Wakefield, has come forward in the Conservative interest to contest Tiverton against the Hon. Mr. Denman, Q.C. At a meeting of his supporters held a few days ago, Sir John said he had found in Yorkshire that many of the best Nonconformists were of his opinion, viz., that everything possible should be done to maintain the connection between Church and State. (Cheers.) The question of Church-rates had given considerable difficulty to statesmen. It was a question which one would be glad to see settled, were it possible. But this he must say—on no account would he see the land—the funded property—of this country, relieved of the duty of supporting the national Church. (Cheers.) The Church of England was every man's Church, and the reason why the land and property of this country should be taxed for its support, was that all the poor of the country might receive instruction in the Christian and Protestant doctrines taught there, without money, and without price. (Hear, hear.) He thought that the education of the poorer classes should, as far as possible, be kept in connection with the national Church. But he must say, so great was the evil which existed with regard to the uneducated classes, that to a certain extent he would advocate compulsory education as it was practised in some other countries.

Literature.

*MR. MOENS'S EXPERIENCES AMONGST ITALIAN BRIGANDS.**

All the world has heard of the capture of two Englishmen in the spring of last year by Italian brigands, and the dismissal of one of them for the purpose of obtaining the sum fixed as a ransom, and the detention of the other with the band amongst the mountains near Salerno, till the payment of the ransom demanded was complete. And now that Mr. Moens has written a narrative of his experiences and adventures during the three months of his captivity, all the world will be eager to read it; for assuredly no Englishman ever before had such an opportunity of observing brigand manners and sharing brigand fortunes. Mr. Moens writes naturally and brightly; telling the incidents of successive days in a quiet straightforward way that is very pleasing and gives one confidence in his truthfulness. There is no picture-making, no attempt to invest his story with exciting interest, and no obtrusion of the more disgusting and hateful aspects of the life he was compelled to live with coarse and barbarous wretches. The facts narrated are sufficiently novel to be left to make their own impression, and to suggest what they must have involved that gentlemanly reticence has concealed: and Mr. Moens is as warmly to be praised for the rightness of feeling that has shaped and pervaded his story, as for the simplicity and liveliness with which he has told it.

To give completeness to the record, the book opens with chapters of travel in Sicily: and then proceeds to make use of the diary of Mrs. Moens, in giving an account of the visit to the renowned ruins of Pæstum, after assurances, both official and private, that the road from Salerno was perfectly safe and guarded by soldiers throughout; but on returning from which, the party encountered the great misfortune which cost Messrs. Moens and Aynsley 5,100*l.* as ransom-price, but has made the former famous, and has given us the very interesting book from which we now extract a description of the capture.

"We were escorted the whole way to Pæstum by soldiers, who joined us on the road, when a little distance from Salerno, asking our coachman where we were going. Although they thus accompanied us, they did not warn us of any danger, notwithstanding that (as we afterwards discovered) they were fully aware of the presence of a band of brigands in the neighbourhood, two Italian gentlemen having been captured by them a week previously. We arrived at the temples at eleven o'clock, and spent the whole day among them, my husband amusing himself in taking photographs of them, one of the carabineers being all the time in the temples in attendance on us. . . . The carriage at last arrived, and we were all glad to get into it and drive away. The road was quite deserted, our escort of the morning having disappeared—in fact, we did not see a single soldier, and the authorities allowed us to return without any warning or guard, although they knew the danger we were running in so doing. We heard afterwards that the troops were drawn off on purpose to allow negotiations to be carried on with the band of a brigand named Giardullo, for the ransom of Signors Bellelli and Magnone.

"We soon began talking about the brigands again, and Mrs. Aynsley and my husband kept trying to frighten me by pointing out dangerous places. However, I never for a moment felt that there was real cause for alarm, and so we laughed and talked about the brigands just as careless unthinking people talk about their own death, never realising the possibility of its being close at hand. Mrs. Aynsley and W. were in high spirits, and at last, tired of teasing me, told me that we had passed all the dangerous places, and one wood in particular that had always been notorious as an ambush.

"I was very tired, and so fell asleep, but was suddenly roused by hearing Mr. Aynsley exclaim, 'Here really are the brigands at last!' I started up, and saw, as it seemed to me, the fields on both sides of the road covered with armed men, some, like serpents, creeping through the standing corn, and advancing swiftly to the carriage; others rising in all quarters from out of the corn, and from behind the tall hedges. They all closed noiselessly round the carriage, pointing their guns at us. One man seized the horses' heads, and turned them across the road. The coachman did not attempt to drive on. No one spoke. We were completely surrounded. There could not have been less than thirty men! I whispered to my husband, 'Give me your watch; I can hide it.' This watch, which he much prized, he slipped behind the cushions of the carriage, without answering me. Still not a word was spoken. I said something, I know not what, to the man holding the horses' heads. He did not reply, but the brigands all made signs to my husband and Mr. Aynsley to get down. Silently the coachman descended, and let down the steps, saying, '*Scende.*' Silently my husband and Mr. Aynsley got out. The armed men surrounded them, and quickly marched off with them, one of the brigands whispering to the coachman to stay there for a quarter of an hour. Till then I had been bewildered, looking on what was taking place as a dream.

"I now first realised what was happening, and a strong determination came over me that I would not be separated from my husband. I sprang out of the carriage, and rushed after him for about twenty paces, but the brigands instantly formed a line to prevent my following, and my husband and Mr. Aynsley, turning round, implored me to return. I felt powerless, and two brigands gently and courteously led me back to the carriage, begging me not to be afraid, as they would return with my husband in a quarter of an hour.

"Once back in the carriage, my head reeled, and I nearly fainted. Mortal fear came both upon Mrs. A—— and myself. All we did at first was to pray; then we looked at one another, and asked what we were to do. We hoped and thought the brigands would carry our husbands behind a house not far from us, take their money, rings, &c., make arrangements for paying a ransom, and then send them back to us. We had heard that this had been done with Mr. ——, when he was taken by brigands at Palermo some years ago. We kept gazing towards the house, and constantly saw people coming towards us. Alas! they were only peasants, more than a hundred of whom passed while we were waiting in fearful expectation, but no one took the slightest notice of us. At least fifty were looking on when the brigands surrounded us."

Of course there is very little to be said in the way of criticism of such a work as this; and to follow the events of a hundred days, which are given as briefly as possible, would be to transcribe it. No general sketch is possible; except of the condition and life of the brigands, as its few elements but many vicissitudes became known to our author from day to day. Mr. Moens had no reason at any time to be hopeful that the Italian soldiery employed for the suppression of brigandage would effect his deliverance; and his first experience of their interference seems only to have increased his dangers.

"It was a trying moment. I was now driven on at a fast pace, and in a minute heard the report of a gun, the bullet whizzing over my head. This was from the soldiers whom Mr. Aynsley met almost immediately after leaving us. The brigands answered this, and there was a brisk fire. I tried to go off to the right, thinking an escape possible, but was turned immediately; my foot slipped, and I fell down some depth, for the mountain was very steep, and all the stones loose. I was very much shaken, and I thought my arm was broken. I could hardly move it, but I was made to get up, and to the cry '*Corre, corre,*' on we went.

"The hill was very high, the base of it covered with fir-trees. I looked up, and saw the rest of the band lining the top of the hill in skirmishing order, firing as fast as they could. The shots of the soldiers now came rattling round us as we passed from bush to bush one by one; and for a quarter of an hour we had to run the gauntlet. At last we got to the bottom of the mountain, where we found a rushing torrent ten yards wide, the fire was too hot for hesitation, so one by one the brigands waded over. I had to follow; on I went, the water up to my waist, rushing, foaming over the stones, and the bullets splashing into it on all sides of me. I do believe the soldiers took special aim at me, the tallest of the party. My death would no doubt have saved them considerable trouble. Had it not been for my stick, I should have been carried away by the force of the stream; as it was, I had to cross in an oblique direction, landing on the other side only two yards above a waterfall of some height. The brigand who followed me was washed down, and went head over heels over the fall, but he was not much hurt, and scrambled out below. The others passed over safely, and we hurried up the steep ascent over the other side for some considerable distance till we were concealed among the trees, and safe from the fire of the troops. I thanked God for my escape from my rescuers, and felt anything but charitably disposed towards their rulers, who ought years ago to have cleared their country from these ruffians, instead of leaving them alone till they carried off an Englishman."

The life of the brigand is not at all the romantic and gloriously adventurous one that has been largely supposed. The men who resort to it are generally murderers and homicides who flee from justice and prison to the freedom of the woods and the despotism of the brigand captain whom they join. There are no fine caverns, stored with treasure, supplied with provisions against long time of need, and permitting the day's danger and toil to be closed with luxury and enjoyment. Their home is the forest, their beds the heather and nettles, their clothes insufficient for the night or burdensome by day, their food stolen on rare opportunities or purchased from the country people at the enormous prices occasioned by the risk of falling under the severe punishments inflicted on the peasantry for assisting or supplying brigands; and, hunted by the soldiers, their lives are every hour in danger, while the impossibility of continuing in one spot and of being active there for any two or three days together, occasions flight from place to place, at all hours, through drenching rains, along paths rough and precipitous so as to be inaccessible to others than themselves; and want of food, sometimes even to the verge of starvation, frequently adds horror to the general meanness and distress and danger in which this brigand-life is lived. It has no inherent attraction whatever; and seems only to be the resort of those to whom publicity and liberty in society are not possible. The large sums received as ransom from the friends of their prisoners are no occasion of the accumulation of wealth or of resources for the life they have adopted; for much of these goes into the hands of peasants when food is scarce and other emergencies arise; and the remainder soon passes by reckless gambling into the hands of a very few, who place it somewhere in safety and give themselves up to the authorities, and after an imprisonment during which their friends may purchase by means of their brigand-savings whatever is necessary for their comfort, they may find life ultimately lie fair before them. There is no high spirit of courage, no emulation of daring deeds among them: so far from being forward for an adventure, or seeking an encounter with an armed party, they have learned the safer policy of cowardice, and fly from the soldiers till they find themselves closely attacked; and even towards travellers their daring and deeds are sunken to the mere use of secresy and surprise. They are utterly without conscience; and never shun to be stained daily with blood; and when prompted by a sense of safety can be mere savages in their cruelty. But one feels, as one learns all the incidents of Mr. Moens's life amongst them, that they are not wholly tigers or devils; for they are capable of kindness, of humour, and of generosity. We are, on the whole, surprised that there are so many traces of better nature, and so little licentiousness or atrocity apparent, in the delineations Mr. Moens gives us. There were women in the band of Manzo, by which Mr. Moens was detained, but they were clothed in a manner similar to the other brigands, and took part in all their labours, journeys, and dangers. We learn no more than this of them.

One can with a little effort conceive something of the utter misery and nearness to despair of an Englishman in the hands of these people. As a captive, for whom ransom was expected, he could never be suffered to be out of their presence; he was compelled to share all their sufferings and wearisome marches, to sleep for more than a hundred nights in the open air, and for more than a hundred days to wear his clothes without the liberty of stripping to wash in a stream, lest the soldiers should surprise them before he could clothe himself; and he had to sleep with these murderers lying close-packed round him, to prevent all chance of his escape, one of them even sharing the same cloak with him, pouring his foul garlicky breath into his face, and imparting to him a full share of the disgusting vermin with which the brigands are all infested, and which occasioned Mr. Moens irritating and painful sores as an aggravation of all his endurances. But though he suffered much from being often drenched, and from night-journeys when foot-sore and exhausted, and had frequently only scraps of bread, or hastily-cooked meat without bread, or a casual onion, or berries of the wood, as his food, and several times nearly perished from having no food at all, it does not seem that he was ever subjected to gratuitous ill-usage, or deprived of means of subsistence which the band themselves enjoyed. Sometimes one or another would be specially sullen with him; and sometimes his portion of the common food was unfairly small; but on the whole they treated him "as a companion," that is, as one of the band, and when he was at his worst point of weakness and suffering, were perhaps as considerate to him as they well knew how to be. Of course it was their policy to preserve him alive till the ransom came. Such, however, were the unavoidable delays and difficulties in the payment of that ransom, that Mr. Moens had many opportunities of considering the near possibility of his head being sent into Salerno to his friends, as a termination of perplexed negotiations which it would have been not unlikely for the brigands to adopt, and did not always seem undesirable to himself. We shall here place in contrast brief passages of narrative in which we see brigands in their jollity (the most pronounced that Mr. Moens has to record) and their captive in his woe:—

"Though we were all feeling the cold so much, we had no fire to-night, being in too exposed a position, and my sufferings in the morning were most severe. The fine weather of last night had gone, and with it that lovely view; in its place was nothing but the mist and clouds with which we were enveloped, the wind driving them along the side of the mountain. Pepino and several others who had slept by the fountain joined us, bringing a good supply of bread, some *confetti*, two terracotta jars and two *caraffe* of wine, and two or three bottles of Rosolio, a kind of strong liqueur, and a large handkerchief full of cherries, which had got wet the day before, and were now in a fermented state; but I had been so long without vegetable food that I ate all my share; they then drank a bottle of Rosolio, each taking a little out of my leathern cap.

"I suffered terribly after this. I do not know whether the severe cold had anything to do with it or not, but for the next four days I had a most violent attack of diarrhœa, and I fully expected that the brigands would have had to scoop out a shallow hole to put my body in. The wine and spirit made them rather merry to-day, and they played a noisy game thus: All stood in a circle, one being chosen by lot in the same manner as the sentinels were selected; he took a bottle of Rosolio, and drank a little, and the bottle was then passed round from one to the other, and it the starter made the noise one does with the tongue when driving, the holder of the bottle was not to drink, but to pass it on; but if he said 'Esso,' the lucky holder at that moment was allowed a draught. Of course the expectant is often tantalised by a pause, and after all is disappointed. When the bottle gets low, it passes round and round without anyone being allowed to drink, and the mer-

* *English Travellers and Italian Brigands: a Narrative of Capture and Captivity.* By W. J. C. MOENS. Two Vols. Hurst and Blackett.

riment is great. Of course the one who has been allowed to drink then gives the word to the others. I was asked to join, but I was too ill to enjoy the fun.

"The captain did not return at the end of the week, as he had promised; all the money was gone, and no food came for three days. I was so hungry that *I begged for some of the raw fat, three weeks old*, that they had kept for the purpose of greasing their boots! This I forced down my throat, after masticating for a quarter of an hour, but at the end of that time it was just as clammy as at first. I three times ate a little of this fearfully rancid stuff. At last, one night, half a sheep was sent up to us, which four of the men took down again to cook, for Pavone, who stopped with me, would not have a fire made where we were. The greedy wretches cooked and ate nearly half of it, putting a quantity away in their pockets, and brought up a little to Pavone, but only gave to me a scraped leg-bone, which Scope threw in my face, hurting me a good deal. It was perfectly raw, and had but very few signs of meat about it. I gnawed at this in the dark like a dog, eating as much of the sinewy appendages as I could manage to find and to bite. I then put it by (also after the manner of dogs) till the morning, being too famished to lose so precious a morsel; but that dear brute Scope seeing it, took it away to see if he could make anything of it—though he had plenty of meat in his pocket—and finding nothing on it threw it at my head again. Not a morsel would the others give me, and for two more days I had to go without food, or to take to the raw and stinking fat again. Each day I had been getting weaker and weaker, till at last my voice failed me, and I could only speak in the lowest whisper, as at last I lay stretched on the ground, praying for death."

Several chapters of the book are taken from the diary of Mrs. Moens, and describe the many and untiring efforts made to obtain the surrender of her husband. The chief difficulty arose from the unwillingness of persons who might justly be entrusted with large sums of money to run the risk of communicating with the brigands, for which offence they were liable to twenty years' imprisonment, or, perhaps, to summary dismissal by the rifle-bullets of the soldiery. The delay, however agonising to the lady, had probably the effect of saving her husband a thousand pounds or two: for, at first, the band insisted strenuously on some 8,500*l.*, under the impression that the Italian Government would pay the ransom for English travellers; and only when that hope was extinguished by the proved vanity of their demand and expectation, did they consent to receive the 5,100*l.* which, after being long in transit to them, procured their captive's release.

Mrs. Moens writes with great simplicity and feeling, and leaves a very vivid impression alike of facts and of her own mental sufferings on her readers' minds. When Mr. Moens was finally released, the brigands made a collection of some seventeen napoleons for him, that he might go to Naples like a gentleman, gave him five rings, strongly wished to kiss him all round, and parted with him on the most friendly terms.

*DR. ROBERTSON'S SERMONS.**

Our columns have lately contained not a few notices of sermons, and obituaries of those who preached them, whose ministry has ceased all too soon for a grateful and expecting church. Of the names recalled by this reference the most eminent by far is that of Frederick W. Robertson, of Brighton. But it is much more than the mere sameness of name that forces on us this associating reminiscence now that we sit down to record our estimate of John Robertson, of Glasgow. While points of contrast might easily be multiplied between the Presbyterian, consistent, we believe, with the reputed polity and theology of his Church, and the Episcopalian, whose religious thought was less defined, we are sure some interesting suggestive resemblances could be traced besides the prominent and obvious ones that each was a minister of the Established Church of his country, and each passed away from his labours just at the time when it is usually supposed men are girding themselves for their highest service of God and of their fellow-men. Certainly the Scotchman was very different in his life and character and relations from the Englishman, and yet in one and another of these sermons we have been irresistibly reminded of some of the very best productions of the English clergyman. It is enough to have made this remark; we have no intention to pursue either comparison or contrast.

The memoir is brief. Its outward incidents do not demand a summary in detail, but we should like to acquaint our readers with its broader features. It is the story, painfully familiar, of a precocious child, too intensely absorbed with books from the first for the due development of his physical frame. He goes from home to school, to college, to theological "Hall," and thence to the ministry which terminates after some fifteen or sixteen years. John Robertson was born of humble parentage in Perth, in 1824. Passing through an elementary school, he entered the "Perth Seminaries," and greatly distinguished himself. Besides making high attainments in classics and mathematics, he had, at an early age, so far cultivated familiarity with the best writers of his own tongue as frequently to surprise his companions by quotations from Shakespeare, Milton, Byron, and Sir W. Scott. With all this intellectual energy and wealth he blended a modesty that won the respect and affection of his class fellows; no stranger would have suspected the latent power and mental treasures which lurked under so unpretending an exterior as he maintained. But it was impossible that such a youth should escape the notice of his teachers; the most devoted of these, Mr. Crichton, rested not till his young friend was entered at the University of St. Andrews. Here his course fulfilled the promise of his early life. During his attendance at college and in the long vacation he preserved his early habit of private reading. It is told of him at this period that having purchased an edition of Moliere's works in seven volumes, he resolved to read it through during the brief interval allowed for breakfast, and this he accomplished; acquiring so intimate a familiarity with the great French comedian's vocabulary and style, that he could read his plays with the same facility as an English book. He dispatched Cicero's works, in ten volumes, during the vacation, though he was then engaged in teaching.

From the old College at St. Andrews Mr. Robertson proceeded to St. Mary's, or the "Hall," for studies, immediately preparatory for the ministry. In their pursuit he won the admiration of his Professors and fellow-students. "It "has been said that no success is perfect without "envy, but such was his humility, such the "kindliness of his manner, that his friends were "almost his partisans. Far from envying his "success, they rejoiced in it as their own; and "thus it was that when he left the university he "had already laid deep and sure the foundation "of his future eminence." His admiring biographer is careful to tell us that his attainments were the result of diligent and persevering industry, combined with good natural parts. He presumed not at all on any superior gifts or endowments. He was assiduous in the cultivation of style, and hence from the first was able to express his thoughts with a "rare vigour, "elegance, and clearness." Indeed, "he seemed "to start from a point which most preachers "never reach at all."

In 1848 he received license to preach the Gospel in the Established Church of Scotland, and was appointed to the parish of Mains, in the Presbytery of Dundee. For ten years he laboured there, both in and out of the pulpit. "The people liked to see his face, and hear his "kindly voice, and enjoy his familiar conversa-"tion; for it was one of his peculiarities that he "could talk on every one's subject. Rich and poor "alike gave him a hearty welcome." He took special interest in education, cheering and aiding the teachers both in his own parish and beyond his limits with his kindly sympathy and great appreciation of their valuable labours. His successor in the parish of Mains thus touchingly described him in a funeral sermon preached in his first pulpit:—"Very gentle he was among you, very "loving and true of heart, apparently all-uncon-"scious of his own great power and increasing "reputation, and retaining to the last a simple "relish for our country pleasures and our com-"mon things. When he left you I obtained "a list of those whom he thought I should lose "no time in visiting as a minister. They were "all poor persons, widows, aged, lonely, bereaved "ones, the sick and dying, and as he named them "to me one by one, he had for each some pity-"ing word."

During his ministry at Mains he had resisted earnest solicitations to occupy more prominent spheres. But in 1858 he yielded to the call to succeed Principal Macfarlan in the Glasgow Cathedral. His *Alma Mater* gracefully seized the opportunity of honouring him by the diploma of D.D. In Glasgow he was not only the preacher, but the pastor. He knew how to discourse in his beautiful Church to an educated congregation, and how to go out to the highways and hedges and gather some of the lost sheep into his Master's fold. Appreciating the services of those who had preceded him, he nevertheless felt his responsibility to originate additional evangelistic measures. His parish seemed naturally to divide itself into four parts, and he sought to establish a mission in each. The services of one and afterwards of a second missionary were secured, and death only arrested the full completion of his design. He often preached in these mission districts, and "the "poor people to whom he discoursed not only knew "but loved him, for after preaching to them he "would go among them and speak to them by "name, for he knew the names and histories of "many." Nor did his death occasion more profound mourning than among these members of his flock.

We have intimated the injury he suffered all through life from too intense habits of thought and study. While at Mains, the first ominous attack which interrupted his work occurred: and soon after his removal to Glasgow he was again laid aside. His people fondly hoped that absolute rest might restore him, but in this they were disappointed. The prospect of several months' forced retirement led him to form many plans of usefulness in the field of literature. Some of these he had set in motion when his Master called him away. He prepared a volume of "Pastoral Counsels" for the press, and we cannot do better than record the discriminating and eloquent notice which Principal Tulloch gives of these Counsels and their author in the *Church of Scotland Missionary Record*, Feb. 1, 1865:—"They are enough to show how much "Christian candour, comprehensive thoughtful-"ness, sound practical judgment, imaginative "sensibility, and literary culture the Church has "lost in their author. The mind which these "'Counsels' exhibit seems to be the very mind "most needed by the Church in the present "time—a mind prospective, yet conservative, "recognising what was good in the past, yet "what may be necessary for the future—a mind "sure in its central convictions, yet broad in its "sympathies, cautious in its judgments, yet "hopeful in its aspirations." No light bereavement was it for the Church of Scotland, and for every church, when on Jan. 9, 1864, Dr. John Robertson breathed his last.

But affectionate and sometimes eloquent as the memoir is, we best learn the real nature and power of the man as we commune with him in his productions. And it is time we turned to their notice. These sermons have been printed exactly as he left them, with the exception of a few inconsiderable verbal changes. They were not written for publication, and immediately after being used were thrown aside. The first part consists of sermons written while Dr. Robertson was minister at Mains; the second, of sermons preached in the Glasgow Cathedral; and the third consists of "Thoughts and Expo-"sitions," slight articles, written at intervals, which he intended to incorporate in a volume on some of the more important questions of theology, or interpretation of Scripture. It is not easy by extracts adequately to exhibit the power, the severe analysis, the beauty which often characterise these discourses: but we shall do our best by a few selections.

The Sermon on "Jarius' Daughter" is an admirable specimen of the historical or narrative discourse. And this sermon it is, which, in its sympathetic penetration, fetching out all the traits of the scene with their uses for every age, most reminded us of Robertson of Brighton. Miracles are described as a "kind of parables in "action," not merely proofs of a revelation from God, but "as themselves integral portions of "that revelation: signs as well as wonders, signs "that were significant of Christian doctrines, "and illustrations also of Christian dispositions "and duties." The circumstance that our Lord proceeded from the great feast in the house of Matthew to the house of Jairus is genially dwelt upon, and it is insisted that sympathy with joy and sympathy with grief are manifestations of the same brotherliness of mind. Beautiful is the sketch of the little child as at that "period "which resembles spring in the natural world." The "discrepancy" between the Evangelists is shown to be no discrepancy, and is skilfully used to present the scene more graphically. Nor does the preacher fail to remark the influence of the intermediate miracle wrought on the woman who interposed herself while they were on the way to the house. A most pathetic description is given of the effect of the presence of death in a house, and occasion is taken to condemn all unreality and ostentation in the expression of our grief. "Give us to live that we shall sometimes be re-"membered by those, be they ever so humble, "to whom we have been useful in our day: give "us that our graves shall be watered by some "tears from the eye of genuine friendship; give "us that our names shall be enshrined, though "but in one heart, that we have cheered, or con-"soled, or instructed, or led to good: for this is "a better and more precious thing than the "pomp of lordly obsequies, or the splendour of a "stately monument." The scene in the chamber of death and resurrection is portrayed for us with great power; and the discourse ends with a fervid assertion of the doctrinal worth of this miracle, and its kindred miracles of the raising of the widow's son, and of Lazarus. We have here "actual trophies of the defeat of the last "enemy, and certain pledges of the coming "resurrection. It was as if the great High "Priest had been presenting to God the wave "sheaf of the first fruits, in earnest of that great "harvest which shall be gathered at the end of "the world. It was as if some liberated captives

Sermons and Expositions by the late John Robertson, D.D., Glasgow Cathedral. With a Memoir of the Author, by the Rev. J. G. YOUNG, Monifieth. Alexander Strahan, London and New York, 1865.

"appeared in the procession of the Captain of "our salvation, in token of His victory over "death and the grave, and in promise of the "final emancipation of His people."

The sermon entitled, "God's commandments a "proof of lovingkindness," is singularly fresh and helpful, but we may not quote from it. In the next, on "Righteousness the true nature of "man," we have a most thoughtful and valuable discussion of the difference of the two phrases, popularly confounded as synonymous, "the "depravity of human nature" and "the natural "depravity of man." Very kindred with it is the following one on "Man's need of help from the Holy "Spirit."

The discourses in "Part Second" are several of them eminently suggestive; they are marked by thought, independence, deep reverence, and earnestness. We are particularly struck with the clearness and force of the sermon on "False "views of the nature of God." "We hold, then, "as the true doctrine alike of Scripture and of "reason, that while it cannot be said that the "Divine Being is altogether such a one as our-"selves, yet neither on the other hand can it "be held that there are no points of affinity "between His nature and ours." In that case external revelation would be impossible: "as "impossible to convey by words a notion of "green, yellow, or blue, to one who has never "enjoyed the faculty of sight." Solemnly does this sermon urge appeal. "In order to advance in "the knowledge of God, it is of the utmost "importance that we be careful of our own moral "condition. God's righteousness, and God's truth, "and God's mercy, and God's love, will become "all the more realities to us, and we may hope to "obtain a deeper insight into their depth and "excellence in proportion as we ourselves are "becoming more righteous and true and merciful "and loving. Not thinking alone will ever give "a real insight into the Divine nature. . . . . "not *thinking* alone, but *thinking* and *being* "together."

We had marked other discourses for the like notice, but must forbear to mention even their titles. Suffice it to say we have not read one that has not instructed and aroused us. Thought and conscience are the continual care of Dr. Robertson. The brief "Expositions" and remarks that form the "Third Part" are very fragmentary, but the reader will find in them rich germs which will deepen his lament that their author lived not to expand them as he had purposed into a book. They set the mind a thinking on the text they briefly notice, and in every well nigh instance give it an impulse as important as it is fresh.

MONTAIGNE'S ESSAYS.[*]

Almost all cultivated men delight in Montaigne; and many repeat with full-hearted agreement, the saying of Emerson, "This old "Gascon is still new and immortal for me." We no more wonder that Pascal should have read him again and again, until he almost knew him by heart, than we do that Shakespeare and Ben Jonson should have been familiar, as both apparently were, with so great and original a writer. There is, notwithstanding, no little difference amongst the critics as to his merits, and even as to the spirit of his Essays. There is unquestionable truth in the view that lays stress on his garrulous egotism, on the parade of himself, and all that belongs to him, even to the infirmities of character and the pettinesses of circumstance; but that view becomes essentially false, when it proceeds no further. Another view regards him as unlearned and an opposed one, as having read more than most men, and as being rarely rich in historical knowledge, and in acquaintance with the substance of philosophical speculation. Addison's was the meanest criticism—implying, as one instinctively feels, something of conscious falsehood and baseness—when he said, "If Montaigne had kept his own counsel, "he might have passed for a much better man." The late Mr. Spalding, one of the most subtle and delicate of literary critics, hardly hit the mark, when he selected as the great old Gascon's characteristic, "shrewd and original but rambling "thought."

The editor of this volume makes a good phrase when he calls Montaigne the "home and parlour "philosopher." But even he, in his very excellent and appreciative "preliminary essay," has puzzled us by maintaining that Montaigne was "*no sceptic*." It is true that he qualifies the remark by adding, "in the sense of *infidel*." But there is even then an emphasis which we cannot allow to be just in the statement that "nothing "can be further from the truth" than this charge of scepticism; and in the denial that he may fairly be claimed and "ticketed as the sceptic," by Emerson and others. The editor, indeed, dwells on the fact that Montaigne was born and bred a Catholic, and was continually referring to the greatness and goodness of God, and was often at prayers. But this altogether misses the point. His respect, such as it was, for religion is not of the essence of his feeling as to the dutiful, the unknown, the divine. His sense of goodness had no contrast in any lively sense of evil or sin; and his devotion, however oddly and even touchingly combined with other features of character, was neither a service of reason nor an effort of faith. Mr. Maurice has perhaps described him best as "the sceptical humanist," and has made it palpable enough to less penetrating readers of Montaigne, that, even in his defence of Raimond, and in support of the position that Christians cannot make human reasoning the basis of their belief, the roving essayist is neither pious nor ironical; but has for his own special and definite conclusions, that it is doubtful "whether our boast of being able to "reason and arrive at knowledge has any justifi-"cation; whether the pursuit of truth may not "be a pleasant and useful amusement, rather "than one which promises any result; whether "we may not make shift with what wisdom we "have, not to go very far wrong in the business "of life; whether religious forms and beliefs "may not be serviceable for that business, and, "therefore, may not deserve to be defended by "such arguments as we can get for them." This is Montaigne's "scepticism." Our readers will perhaps remember how often Montaigne has furnished us with remarks worldly-wise, and keen, and true, which have been enlisted in all sorts of service; but, while perpetually enjoying him, we never lose the feeling that his practical philosophy is that appropriate to "gentlemen "with comfortable means, and leisure and "humour for observing the world," and not for those who have to work and suffer, and engage in the battles of life.

The selection of essays in the volume now presented to us is most judiciously made, and will surely cause Montaigne to be more widely read than he has ever been in England—bringing his best things to circles of readers, the gentle and the pure, to whom his fine wit, mellow humour, and extraordinary practical sense have been as yet unknown. The translation adopted is substantially that of Cotton; but the editor professes to have compared it carefully with the original text, and has made considerable use of Florio, in alternative renderings given in footnotes. We have now for so many years been familiar with "still-resolute John Florio," that we cannot wish to substitute any other translation for his quaint and racy one; but we can unreservedly commend the present volume as the first ever produced that is fitted in every way to make Montaigne's essays familiar to persons of ordinary English culture.

Here, laying down our pen, we have been turning over the pages of our long-precious Florio—the edition, a folio, of 1632; and as our eye has fallen on one and another of his sayings on subjects which give human life in its connections with the mysteries of existence, we have felt more deeply than ever that Hallam has, as we remember to have urged years ago, misled some of our popular writers by his declaration that Montaigne is not liable to the suspicion of being an infidel. This might be vindicated to some extent by his surface recognition of the Catholic faith; as we have seen that the present editor attempts. But it is impossible, after reviving the recollection of Montaigne at large by the reperusal of even two or three of the more characteristic essays, to overlook the peering-out from chink and loophole, and the frequent plain disclosure, of the spirit of doubt, employing sometimes the ingenuity of pertinent question, and sometimes the mockery that sprightliness conceals, to give the merely humanist and egoistic bias to all practical conclusions. Nor, if we read him unabridged, can we escape the pain and disgust which his indelicacy must occasion in all minds having high moral feeling or even a just sense of propriety. It was his great sin that he gave the example, and that his famous name long after continued to afford encourgement, for this particular abandonment in the literature of his country. There is good reason, therefore, now as in former days, to write censures of the Sieur de Montaigne, such as proceeded from the Port-Royalists on the one hand, and Father Malebranche on the other; while we may still wish that cultivated persons, able to read with discernment, and not wholly unfamiliar with varying modes of thought and tendencies of speculation, should have the pleasure afforded by the bright perfection of his genius, and the profit of his rich worldly sense.

[*] *Essays by Montaigne.* Edited, Revised, and Annotated, by the Author of "The Gentle Life." S. Low, Son, and Co.

BRIEF NOTICES.

Step to Reading. (London: Hatchard and Co.) The plan of this book is, so to arrange the words of some Scripture sentence that the little scholar shall *feel* he is *stepping* on from word to word till he has made the sentence. Thus, in the early part of the book, the first word of a sentence is placed by itself, and each succeeding line advances by a word upon its preceding, till the sentence is completed. In the latter part of the book, the sentences are longer and advance by clauses. It is hoped that by this method, (not only will the young reader be helped, but his mind be impressed by the iteration of Scripture truths.

Diamond Dust. By ELIZA COOK. (London: F. Pitman.) A rich and valuable and glistering dustheap, composed of some 2,000 atoms, in the shape of aphorisms, apophthegms, maxims, &c., and some 160 in the form of definitions. We have thrust our hand into the heap in many places, and found that all the atoms are genuine and striking. We must select a few as specimens, but where all are so good, it is difficult to choose:—"Love, well understood, is wisdom." "Poetry is the "key to the hieroglyphics of nature." "A truly good "memory is forgetful only of injuries." "Frowns "blight young children as frosty nights blight young "plants." "The most disagreeable two-legged animal "is a little great man; and the next, a little great "man's factotum and friend." "*Woman*—the melody "of the human duet." "*Love*—the atmosphere "breathed by God." "*Poetry*—thought in full blos-"som." "*Grace*—beauty in motion." "*Money*—the "largest slaveholder in the world."

Aurora; or, Rays of Light on the Road of Life: Original Table-Talk on all Kinds of Topics. By W. TORBET YOUNG. (Rivingtons, Dublin: A. Murray and Co.) A little book of original proverbs, fables, maxims, and definitions. Many of these are good, but they are too frequently in the harsh and cynical vein. We quote a few out of several, which seem to us, for different reasons, objectionable:—"Begin too soon, that "you may not end too late." "It is generally found "that the man who discovers a screw loose makes a "bolt fast." "If all labourers are worthy of their hire, "there are those who are worthy of higher." "*Public "opinion.*—A fool's wisdom, and a knave's conscience." "Men and women do sometimes marry for love—the love "of money."

The Literature of the Sabbath Question. By ROBERTS COX, F.S.A. Scot. Two Vols. (Edinburgh: Macmillan and Stewart.) The compiler of these closely-packed and closely-printed volumes is, we presume, tolerably well known as the author of an able work on "Sabbath Laws and Sabbath Duties," and a pamphlet containing the opinions of the Reformers, and chiefly Calvin, on this much-disputed subject. In the present most laborious work, on which almost incalculable research and painstaking must have been spent, it is his object to assist "a thorough and impartial study of the "Sabbath Question." The plan and contents of the volumes may be best stated in his own words:—"After "collecting at the outset those portions of Scripture "upon which all varieties of belief on the subject are "based, I have given a copious list, in chronological "order, of the principal books in which those varieties "are set forth and maintained, or which afford the "evidence relied on by the disputants. To the titles of "the most remarkable treatises are subjoined notices "and samples of their contents, the extracts being "sometimes of considerable length, especially when "selected from rare or voluminous works, or relating "to topics of peculiar interest at the present time." The Scripture passages seem to be a thoroughly complete collection; and many included have a very remote relation to the subject, but are impartially adduced as having been at some time or other brought or dragged into the controversy. The notes on these Scriptures are few, and are generally, if not entirely, drawn from unexceptionable sources, and are confined to presenting the literal translation or a brief view of varied opinions, or disputed texts. To the Scriptures succeed the Fathers; but the really valuable materials they supply must be sought out in the supplement to Vol. I., which was resolved on for proportion's sake, after the earlier pages were printed, and when it had been discovered by Mr. Cox that the account of the literature of English Protestant Sabbatarianism, and especially of the great controversy in Charles I's. reign, must be given at much greater length than he had permitted himself in the case of the Fathers. From the close of the eighth century down to the Reformers, materials for the history of the Sabbath are found only in Aquinas (13th cent.), Tostatius (15th cent.), and the Catechism of the Council of Trent. From the Reformers onwards the stream of writings on the Sabbath and Lord's-day flows in a mighty stream. We imagine that those who have thought themselves well informed on the subject, will view with surprise this vast body of materials. When he reached the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries Mr. Cox must have had heavy and often dreary work; for he seems to have missed nothing—if we may judge from the inclusion of many small and comparatively obscure pieces previously known to us; and has extended his survey to the literature of the United States and the continent. Probably no one of Mr. Cox's critics, actual or possible, knows the hundredth part as much of the subject as he does himself, and we shall content ourselves with thus reporting on the character of the book, and the expression of our admiration of the compiler's industry, and our gratitude for such complete guidance

to the whole question, as treated from every point of view, and in every age. It may well be supposed that a writer who bestows such enormous labour on such a subject has some personal view that is distinctly enough marked; and such is unquestionably Mr. Cox's case. But these volumes are not written in advocacy of his own view, which, perhaps, he thinks will most certainly and convincingly present itself to the student who will be thorough and candid in examining all the sources and arguments. It may be that were we to put our own practical view alongside of Mr. Cox's, we should as little satisfy *him* as we should the maintainers of the most severe Sabbatarianism. But we bear testimony to the unwavering righteousness of spirit and open-eyed search apparent in Mr. Cox's exhibition of the contents of all those works, on whatever side of the question, as to which we have been able without special reading to test him. His book will have perpetual value for men of every party.

Chronicles of Carlingford: The Perpetual Curate. A New Edition. (Blackwood and Sons.) It is enough to chronicle the appearance of the cheap one-volume edition of the last completed story of the Carlingford series, uniform in size and price with its predecessors. We several times noticed the story as it appeared in "Blackwood," and on its completion there. It is Mrs. Oliphant's best piece of minute and delicate character-painting, displaying remarkable insight, analysis, and steady power of representation by means of successive touches, each contributive to distinct and deeply impressed conception of the persons of the story. It lost much by being broken up into the separate portions suited to a serial; and it even now is sometimes wearisome in its repetitions, in its delays of the completion of incident, and in its small concealments and mysteries. But we shall not further review ourselves as well as Mrs. Oliphant in the hasty words which greet a popular edition of one of the best real-life novels of the time.

The Book Almanacks of the Royal Insurance Company for 1866 are just issued, and it appears, from the statistics given therein, that the business of the office during the last completed financial year has experienced greater expansion than in any previous year, and this increase of business has enabled the managers to declare a dividend at the rate of 25 per cent. on the original shares, which is highly satisfactory.

Court, Official, and Personal News.

The Prince and Princess of Wales terminated their visit to the Earl and Countess of Leicester at Holkham, Norfolk, on Saturday. They returned, with their suite, to Sandringham House, by the West Norfolk Junction Railway from the Burnham station.

The marriage of Prince Christian and her Royal Highness the Princess Helena will, it is said, probably take place early in July.

The Duchess (Dowager) of Sutherland is still in a very indifferent state of health. Her grace is staying at Stafford House.

The Duchess de Chartres was safely delivered of a prince at Morgan House, Ham-common, on Wednesday morning.

The Count de Lannoy, on a special mission from the King of the Belgians, arrived on Friday morning, to announce the accession of King Leopold II., and to deliver up the Field-Marshal's baton and the insignia of the Order of the Garter and the Grand Cross of the Bath of the late King of the Belgians. Lord Clarendon had an audience of the Queen, and returned to London.

Prince Christian, the affianced of Princess Helena, arrived at Windsor on Monday on a visit to the English Court.

The members of the Home Circuit, to which Mr. Justice Lush belonged, on Wednesday night entertained that learned judge at dinner at the Albion Tavern, in congratulatory celebration of his recent elevation to the bench.

We (*Star*) have heard on authority which we regard as reliable, that the Emperor of the French has positively intimated to the Cabinet of Washington his willingness to withdraw his troops from Mexico at any moment on condition that the Government of the United States recognises the Emperor of Mexico.

Miscellaneous News.

GREAT NORTHERN HOSPITAL, CALEDONIAN-ROAD, ISLINGTON, N.—Number of patients for the week ending January 15, 1,037, of which 224 were new cases.

FIRE AT MUDIE'S LIBRARY, MANCHESTER.—The library of Messrs. Mudie, in Cross-street, Manchester, was seriously damaged by fire on Saturday morning. As many as 15,000 volumes are said to be more or less injured, and Messrs. Mudie's loss is estimated at 3,000*l.*

DEATH FROM A PAIR OF SPECTACLES.—On Friday, John Cauffe, aged eighty, was found, near Ballater, lying dead in a pool of blood. It appears that he had fallen when about 200 or 300 yards from his house, and in the fall he had broken the pair of spectacles he had on, the glass of which inflicted a deep wound in the left eye, and caused death by hemorrhage.—*Scotsman.*

JOHN CROSSLEY AND SONS, LIMITED, HALIFAX.—The first balance-sheet of this large manufacturing company, which, as will be remembered, was converted into a joint-stock company with the express object of allowing the managers, overlookers, and other persons employed in the concern to take shares, and thus have an interest in its prosperity, has just been issued to the shareholders, and the following are its principal features:—Capital paid up, 1,092,390*l.*; balance of profit from 10th September, 1864, to 2nd December, 1865, 228,593*l.*; proposed dividend, 201,119*l.*; being at the rate of 15 per cent. per annum, besides a share of profit belonging to the old firm up to the 1st June, 1865, and a reserve fund of 11,284*l.*

ASYLUM FOR FATHERLESS CHILDREN.—The annual election of this charity took place on Monday at the London Tavern, when ten boys and six girls were admitted to its benefits. The chairman said the design of the institution was to receive the fatherless infant, without distinction of sex, place, or religious connection, and that while the education of the infant family should be strictly religious and Scriptural, no denominational catechism whatever should be introduced, and no particular forms should be imposed upon any child contrary to the religious convictions of the surviving parent or guardian. The debt of the building had decreased from 10,000*l.* to 2,700*l.*, and one more vigorous and well-sustained effort would cause its entire extinction. The ages of the children elected varied from two years to ten years.

THE CITY MIDDLE-CLASS SCHOOL SCHEME.—A meeting was held at the Mansion House on Friday, in furtherance of the movement initiated by the Rev. W. Rogers. The committee appointed at the previous meeting presented a report of what they had done. They think that a school in which 800 or 1,000 children may receive education at a rate of payment not exceeding 4*l.* per annum, should be erected in Finsbury. For this 50,000*l.* would be required; but the committee resolved to raise a fund of 100,000*l.*, and for that purpose asked the bankers, merchants, and public bodies of London to subscribe sums of 1,000*l.* or 500*l.* each. In answer to their appeal thirty-three subscriptions of 1,000*l.* each, and seven of 500*l.* each have been promised, besides several smaller sums. The report of the committee was adopted, and the scheme was advocated by the Rev. Mr. Rogers, Alderman Hale, Mr. Tite, M.P. Mr. Gassiot, and others.

THE FENIANS.—The Fenian Brotherhood, in no wise discomfited by the heavy sentences which have been passed upon some of their number, appear determined to proceed in the prosecution of their plans. On Wednesday morning, twenty-one Fenians, fully armed, landed in Sligo—only to find themselves immediately under arrest. From a workshop belonging to a man named Tracey, in Dublin, the police seized 66 pikes complete, 246 pikes in a rough state, and 29 handles in course of preparation, also a patent machine for manufacturing percussion caps. The city and county of Dublin, as well as other districts, have been "proclaimed," in order that a general search for arms may be made. It is believed that large quantities are hidden. The trial of the man Byrne for conniving at the escape of Stephens, the Fenian Head-Centre, has ended in an unsatisfactory manner. The jury, after being locked up many hours, were unable to agree, and finally were dismissed, the prisoner being retained in custody. George Hopper, one of the men charged with Fenianism, pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to two years' imprisonment.

SURREY CHAPEL ANNUAL TEMPERANCE FESTIVAL AND CHRISTMAS-TREE.—On Wednesday evening, January 10, this annual festivity proved itself even more attractive than ever, every room that could be occupied was filled with merry-making tea-drinkers, after which every inch of space in the large schoolroom was occupied. The gigantic Christmas-tree reached from the floor to the ceiling, and its richly-laden stores shone and dazzled in the gaslight, making the juvenile portion of the audience cheer and cheer again. The Rev. Newman Hall presided, and appropriately introduced the business of this meeting. Several recitations were delivered by the members of the Band of Hope in excellent style. Mr. Benn, the secretary, read the report, which was most encouraging, after which the Rev. N. J. Charlesworth, Messrs. G. C. Campbell, Storr, Saunders, and Murphy, addressed the meeting in short telling speeches, and then the work of the evening begun in the distribution of the 500 prizes. This was at length satisfactorily completed after a good deal of fun by the women and girls getting marbles, the men and boys getting dolls, and other *contretemps*, but the season was a most enjoyable one, and a night long to be remembered.

WHICH WAS THE BRUTE?—A few days ago a cab was called off the public stand on the Grand Parade, High-street, Portsmouth, to convey a lady and gentleman to the railway-station, Landport. The weather was excessively rough at the time, and no particular notice was given to the condition of the cabman by the fare as they entered the cab and were driven off on their way to the railway-station. In due time the cab drew up at the passenger entrance, and the cab door was opened by one of the porters, who assisted the lady and gentleman to descend, and took charge of their luggage. The next step was to pay the cabman, but no cabman could be found, and in answer to the gentleman's inquiries, the policemen and porters on duty stated that the horse and cab came to the station without any driver! As a matter of course, no fare could be paid for the short but somewhat dangerous drive, and the parties proceeded on to London by the next train, the horse and cab being taken charge of by the police. Subsequent inquiries ascertained that the cabman, at the time he took up his fare, was so drunk that, before he had driven clear off the High-street, he rolled from his driving-seat into the middle of the road-way. The horse, however, poor beast, was sober enough, and drew its cab and its unconscious fare in safety, as stated, to the desired point of its journey, the Landport station.

SURREY CHAPEL POPULAR LECTURES.—On Monday evening the Surrey Chapel was densely crowded to hear a lecture "On Savonarola and Italy," by Mr. A. H. Layard, M.P. The chair was occupied by the Rev. Newman Hall, who in opening the proceedings, and referring to the presence of Mr. Layard among them, said that the large constituencies of London must not be longer spoken of as if they were not able to find out good, fit, and proper men to represent them in Parliament. It was not true that the large constituencies of London looked out for somebody to represent them of local connection, as if a man must live in a certain district to understand the necessities of the people. It was not true that they only looked out for men who had plenty of money, and who had an interest in certain districts. It was not true that the large constituencies of London did not know how to appreciate men of ability, of energy, of honesty—(applause)—men who were the friends of freedom, of progress, of labour, of peace and order—men who were like their friend Mr. Layard. (Loud applause.) Mr. Layard was enthusiastically received, and his lecture, which dealt with the principal epochs of Italian history in the eleventh, twelfth, thirteenth, and fourteenth centuries, was listened to with the utmost attention by the vast audience. A vote of thanks to Mr. Layard terminated the proceedings.

A MINISTERIAL MIDNIGHT VISIT.—On Tuesday last, just before midnight, the superintendent of the Poplar casual wards was aroused from his quietude by the appearance of several gentlemen seeking admittance—not as recipients of the relief bestowed by the guardians, but for the purpose of satisfying themselves that the deserving houseless poor were properly cared for. The unexpected visitors were none others than Sir George Grey, Mr. Waddington, Sir Richard Mayne, and his two sons. The first call made by the Home Secretary was at the Sailors' Home, Well-street, which was duly inspected, after which they proceeded direct to the Poplar casual wards, which for the past six weeks have been placed under the police, and who issue all orders for admittance. This has been done by the sanction of Sir Richard Mayne, and has worked exceedingly well; the vagrant class have disappeared, and the number seeking admittance reduced to one-third. Prior to the appointment of the police as assistant relieving-officers twenty-eight cases were taken before the magistrate in one month for destroying clothing, whereas only one case has occurred since. On the occasion alluded to the wards were comparatively quiet; the occupants did not number twenty, one of whom had recently entered, had taken his bath, and was eating his meal of bread. Thus the Home Secretary had ocular demonstration that not only had the houseless poor a comfortable night's lodging, but that cleanliness was a prominent feature, and he expressed himself as perfectly satisfied with the arrangements. The visitors, after making themselves thoroughly acquainted with the system adopted in this Union, proceeded on their tour of inspection to other casual wards, as likewise to several licensed lodging-houses in the locality, for the purpose of witnessing the distinction between the accommodation offered by the casual wards and the threepenny lodging-houses. The accommodation of the Poplar casual wards, no doubt, is far preferable to that offered by these lodging-houses; but the poor have not been so well cared for in the other Unions.—*Tower Hamlets Express.*

Gleanings.

A fossil spider has been found in a shale from the "coal measures" of Upper Silesia. Hitherto spiders have not been found in any rocks older than the Jurassic.

"Heroine" is, perhaps, as peculiar a word as any in our language. The two first letters of it are male, the three first a female, the four first a brave man, and the whole word a brave woman.

"Jane, has that surly fellow cleared off the snow from the pavement?" "Yes, sir." "Did he clear it off with alacrity, Jane?" "No, Sir; with a shovel."

DISCOVERY OF A NEW DYE.—We understand that an important discovery in connection with the utilisation of the chemical products of peat has just been made in Stornoway, at the chemical works of Sir James Matheson. Readers are already familiar with the brilliant dyes extracted from the chemical product of coal tar and the refuse of the gas-works, which, under the names of mauve, magenta, &c., have become so valuable and so common. We believe that a dye of a similar nature, but of an indigo colour, has been eliminated from the products of peat at the works established in the Lewis by the enterprising M.P. for the manufacture of paraffin. This discovery is considered to have important utilitarian and economical results, and we believe will be secured by patent.—*John O'Groat Journal.*

INEXHAUSTIBLE IVORY.—New Siberia and the Isle of Lacon are, for the most part, only an agglomeration of sand, ice, and elephants' teeth. At every tempest the sea casts ashore fresh heaps of mammoth's tusks, and the inhabitants are able to drive a

profitable trade in the fossil ivory thrown up by the waves. During summer, innumerable fishermen's barques direct their course to this isle of bones; and in winter immense caravans take the same route, all the convoys, drawn by dogs, returning charged with the tusks of the mammoth, weighing each from a hundred and fifty to two hundred pounds. The fossil ivory thus obtained from the frozen north is imported into China and Europe, where it is employed for the same purposes as ordinary ivory—which is furnished, as we know, by the elephant and hippopotamus of Africa and Asia. The isle of bones has served as a quarry of this valuable material for export to China for five hundred years; and it has been exported to Europe for upwards of a hundred. But the supply from these strange mines remains undiminished. What a number of accumulated generations does not this profusion of bones and tusks imply.—*Dickens's "All the Year Round."*

A TEST OF AFFECTION.—The *Limerick Southern Chronicle* vouches for the following romantic incident as having occurred in a "neighbouring county":—"A certain young lady, possessing more than ordinary accomplishments for her class of life, being the daughter of poor but respectable parents, on the death of a wealthy relative recently, became entitled to 8,000*l.* When the glad tidings reached the ears of her neighbours, many warm admirers flocked round the hitherto neglected beauty, and there was no end to the overtures of love. Previous to the turn of fortune's wheel, a young man, of humble pretensions, had been the young lady's only suitor, but the knowledge of her wealth at once placed a formidable barrier in his way, and he contented himself with being a silent worshipper at a distance. Matters ultimately came to a crisis, and in order to test the affection of her devotees the young lady caused a report to be circulated that the supposed fortune was in reality only a sham, the mistake having occurred through a similarity of name. The intelligence had the effect of causing the visits of the lovers to become less frequent and finally cease altogether. The humble youth rejoiced at the change, and at once took the opportunity to console the mistress of his heart, who, to the surprise of all, rewarded his sincerity with her hand, and made him sole master of 8,000*l.*"

Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

City, Tuesday Evening.

Consols have been dull, with no improvement up to this evening. The last prices to-day were 86¾ to 87 for money, and 87⅛ ¼ for the account.

In railway and other shares, most of the English show a tendency to improvement.

The demand for discount is only moderate.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Friday's *Gazette.*)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending Wednesday, Jan. 10.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	£36,724,840	Government Debt	£11,015,100
		Other Securities	3,684,900
		Gold Coin & Bullion	12,074,840
	£36,724,840		£36,724,840

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital	£14,553,000	Government Securities	£9,890,950
Rest	3,430,363	Other Securities	22,331,194
Public Deposits	3,643,638	Notes	5,278,245
Other Deposits	16,231,562	Gold & Silver Coin	812,989
Seven Day and other Bills	454,815		
	£38,313,378		£38,313,378

Jan. 11, 1866. W. MILLER, Chief Cashier.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Heed the Warning.—As the years wane the nervous energy decreases, the vigour of the circulation declines, and disease sets in, unless some alterative medicines be taken to arouse these failing functions. Holloway's Pills stand foremost as the surest and safest means of accomplishing this desirable object. A few doses thoroughly cleanses the stomach, and freely relieves the bowels, whereby determination of blood to the head, singing in the ears, confusion of thought, and loss of memory, are guarded against, and many more alarming symptoms are effectually resisted. Holloway's Pills preside over the concoction of the food from its first entering the mouth, throughout the appropriation of the nutritious portions up to the expulsion of the refractory residue.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

HURNDALL.—January 4, at the Cedars, Rickmansworth, the wife of the Rev. Dr. Hurndall, of a son.

SWEET.—January 14, at the Chapel House, Romford, the wife of the Rev. Frederick Sweet, of a son and heir.

MARRIAGES.

PHILLIPS—STONEMAN.—January 2, at the Independent chapel, North Tawton, Mr. H. Phillips, to Miss Elizabeth, only daughter of Mr. J. Stoneman, late of Rosebury Villa, in that parish.

CLARKE—HARRIS.—January 4, at the Congregational church, Chichester, by the Rev. B. B. Williams, Mary Ann, relict of Mr. C. C. Clarke, and eldest daughter of Benness Adames, Esq., to Mr. James Harris, all of Chichester. No cards.

GRIFFITH—KENWAY.—January 4, at Kensington Chapel, Bath, by the Rev. Octavius Winslow, D.D., Mr. Richard Griffith, of Slough, to Mary Gray, third daughter of Mr. J. B. Kenway, of Batheaston. No cards sent.

BLAKEY—CREIGHTON.—January 6, at the Baptist chapel, Wakefield, by the Rev. G. C. Catterall, Mr. James Blakey, to Miss Ann Rebecca Creighton, both of Wakefield.

WHITWORTH—COUPS.—January 10, at Oldham-road Independent Chapel, Manchester, by the Rev. J. Bedell, Henry, eldest son of Mr. James Whitworth, of Salford, to Sarah Thompson, eldest daughter of the late Mr. Christopher Coups, of Manchester.

DEATHS.

ASHTON.—November 28, J. R., the infant son of the Rev. J. P. Ashton, M.A., at the London Mission-house, Madras.

BALKWILL.—January 10, at the residence of her son-in-law, Mr. W. Luke, Bible Christian minister, Princess-street, Southampton, Mrs. Oringe Balkwill, late of Shebbear, Devon, aged sixty-five years.

HUNT.—January 11, at No. 19, Cambridge-road Villas, Kilburn, Sarah, widow of the late Rev. John Hunt, of Brixton-hill, in her seventy-sixth year.

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, Jan. 15.

Trade for both English and foreign wheat has remained much the same since Monday last, business, as usual at this period, being quite restricted. Barley is in good supply, and the sale slow, especially for secondary malting sorts. Beans and peas unaltered. The arrivals of oats are small. Slightly enhanced rates have been made for Swedish oats, of which there is a stray cargo or two in the market; while Russian descriptions in granary sell slowly, at about the prices of last Monday.

CURRENT PRICES.

	Per Qr. s.	s.		Per Qr. s.	s.
WHEAT—			PEAS—		
Essex and Kent, red, old	44	50	Grey	36	39
Ditto new	36	45	Maple	37	40
White, old	52	58	White	39	42
,, new	42	50	Boilers	40	42
Foreign red	42	48	Foreign, white	36	42
,, white	48	58	RYE	26	28
BARLEY—			OATS—		
English malting	33	37	English feed	20	25
Chevalier	38	40	,, potatoe	25	29
Distilling	29	33	Scotch feed	22	26
Foreign	21	28	,, potatoe	25	29
MALT—			Irish black	19	24
Pale	54	67	,, white	20	25
Chevalier	64	68	Foreign feed	21	25
Brown	48	58	FLOUR—		
BEANS—			Town made	43	46
Ticks	39	42	Country Marks	32	37
Harrow	43	45	Norfolk & Suffolk	33	34
Small	44	50			
Egyptian	38	42			

BREAD.—LONDON, Monday, Jan. 15.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 7d to 8d.; household ditto, 6½d. to 6¾d.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET.

MONDAY, Jan. 15.—The total imports of foreign stock into London, last week, amounted to 6,372 head. In the corresponding week in 1865 we received 4,031; in 1864, 2,032; in 1863, 4,550; in 1862, 1,667; in 1861, 306; in 1860, 2,319 head. The supply of foreign stock in our market to-day was only moderate, of sheep tolerably good for the time of year. Some of the latter, from Holland, were out of wool. The show of foreign calves was rather limited. The arrivals of beasts fresh up from our own grazing districts, as well as from Ireland, were only moderate, and in but middling condition. From Scotland the supply was good, and of excellent quality. An official notice having been issued to the effect that all beasts purchased in this market must in future be slaughtered within four miles of the centre of London, the beef trade was very inactive, at last week's prices. Scots and crosses sold at 4s. 10d. to 5s. 2d. per 8lbs.; from Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire we received 1,200 Scots and crosses; from Lincolnshire, 1,000 shorthorns; from other parts of England, 500 of various breeds; from Scotland, 800 Scots and crosses; and from Ireland 200 oxen and heifers. There was about an average number of sheep in the pens for the season. The condition of most breeds was good. The demand ruled heavy, and the quotations had a drooping tendency. The best old Downs and the best half-breds realised 6s. 4d. to 6s. 8d. per 8lbs. There was only a moderate inquiry for calves, at late rates—from 4s. to 5s. per 8lbs. Pigs, the supply of which was moderate, moved off steadily, at last week's quotations.

Per 8lbs. to sink the Offal.

	s. d.	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.
Inf. coarse beasts	3 4	to 3 8	Prime Southdown	6 4	to 6 8
Second quality	3 10	4 4	Lambs		
Prime large oxen	4 6	4 10	Lge. coarse calves	4 0	4 6
Prime Scots, &c.	4 10	5 2	Prime small	4 8	5 0
Coarse inf. sheep	4 0	4 8	Large hogs	4 0	4 6
Second quality	4 10	5 6	Neat sm. porkers	4 8	5 2
Pr. coarse woolled	5 8	6 2			

Suckling calves, 19s. to 22s.; and quarter-old store pigs, 30s. to 38s. each.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, Jan. 15.

The fresh supplies of meat are small. The trade is steady at the annexed quotations.

Per 8lbs. by the carcase.

	s. d.	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.
Inferior beef	2 8	to 3 4	Small pork	4 10	to 5 2
Middling ditto	3 6	4 0	Inf. mutton	3 8	4 2
Prime large do.	4 2	4 4	Middling ditto	4 6	4 10
Do. small do.	4 6	4 8	Prime ditto	5 0	5 2
Large pork	3 8	4 8	Veal	4 0	5 0

POTATOES.—BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, Jan. 15.—These markets are well supplied with potatoes. Generally speaking the trade is quiet at about stationary prices. This week's import is very small. Kent and Essex Regents, 60s. to 90s. per ton; Yorkshire Regents, 60s. to 95s.; Flukes, 70s. to 110s.; Rocks, 40s. to 65s.; Scotch Regents, 40s. to 85s.

PROVISIONS, Monday, Jan. 15.—In the Irish butter market the demand was limited to a few third Corks at 114s. and Clonmel 124s. to 126s. Friesland was 126s. and Normandy, 138s. Bacon sold better, at 62s. on board for Waterford, and 61s. to 63s. landed for Cork and Limerick. At the close of the week there was a disposition to raise prices 1s., which met with only a partial success. There was a fair demand for hams. Lard was sold at 80s. on board for best brands.

WOOL, Monday, Jan. 15.—Since our last report very little business has been passing in any kind of wool, either for home use or for export, and prices have ruled almost nominal. To force sales lower rates must be submitted to.

BOROUGH HOP MARKET, Monday, Jan. 15.—The imports of foreign hops into London last week were 119 bales from Boulogne, 93 bales from Antwerp, 59 bales from Hamburg, 25 bales from Bremen, 10 bales from Rotterdam, and 1 bale from Ostend. Mid and East Kents, 100s., 147s., 190s.; Farnhams and Country, 100s., 126s., 160s.; Weald of Kents, 80s., 115s., 130s.; Sussex, 70s., 100s., 112s.; Yearlings, 95s., 120s., 135s.

SEED, Monday, Jan. 15.—There is now more general inquiry for agricultural seeds. For red seed there has been a continuous demand for all qualities, at full prices. A few samples of new English were offering this morning, mostly of middling quality, which found buyers at from 70s. to 76s. for ordinary up to 80s. for fine quality. White seed rather more inquired for, without change in value. Trefoils were held firmly, at the advance noted last week.

TALLOW.—LONDON, Monday, Jan. 15.—The tallow trade is steady to-day, at about previous prices. P.Y.C. is quoted at 47s. 6d. to 48s. per cwt. on the spot. Town tallow is selling at 46s. 9d. net cash. Rough fat 2s. 5d. per 8lbs.

OIL, Monday, Jan. 15.—Linseed oil moves off slowly, at 36s. 9d. per cwt. on the spot. Rape is a slow sale, at rather lower prices. For nearly all other oils the trade is very inactive, and in some instances the quotations are somewhat easier. French spirits of turpentine are in fair demand, at 46s. 6d. per cwt. on the spot. American refined petroleum, 3s. per gallon.

COALS, Monday, Jan. 15.—Market very heavy, at the rates of last day. Hettons, 21s.; Haswell's, 21s.; Hetton Lyons, 19s. 9d.; Hartley's, 18s.; New Belmont, 18s. 9d.; Ravensworth Hartley's, 17s. 6d.; Wylam, 18s.; Norton's Anthracite, 22s. Fresh ships, 72; left, 6; at sea, 90.

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PIANOFORTES FOR HIRE.
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Arrangements for Three Years' Purchase and Hire allowed, or for any Period, on Convenient Terms.
PEACHEY'S
CITY OF LONDON MANUFACTORY
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An extensive assortment of PIANOFORTES, WARRANTED. New and Second-hand. Every Description and Price.
HARMONIUMS FOR SALE OR HIRE.
**New Grand Pianofortes for HIRE, for Concerts, Lectures, &c.

TEETH WITHOUT PAIN
AND
WITHOUT SPRINGS.
OSTEO EIDON FOR ARTIFICIAL TEETH,
Equal to Nature.
A Single Tooth, from Five Shillings.
Complete Sets—Four, Seven, Ten, and Fifteen Guineas.
MESSRS. GABRIEL,
THE OLD-ESTABLISHED DENTISTS,
LONDON:
27, HARLEY-STREET, CAVENDISH-SQUARE, W.
CITY ESTABLISHMENT:
64 (late 36), LUDGATE-HILL.
(Four Doors from the Railway Bridge.)
134, DUKE-STREET, LIVERPOOL; and
65, NEW-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.
Messrs. GABRIEL guarantee every case they undertake.
Gabriel's "Treatise on the Teeth," gratis.

HAIR DYE.—BATCHELOR'S INSTANTANEOUS COLUMBIAN, the best in the world, in the New York original packets, 4s. 6d., 7s., and 14s. each. Sold by Hairdressers, and wholesale at R. Hovenden and Sons, Wholesale Perfumers, 5, Great Marlborough-street, W.; and 93 and 95, City-road, E.C.
N.B.—If found to fail, the money will be returned for any unused portion.

HAIR DYE! HAIR DYE! HAIR DYE!
GILLINGWATER'S ATRAPILATORY is the best Hair Dye in England. Grey, red, or rusty hair dyed instantly to a beautiful and natural brown or black without the least injury to hair or skin, and the ill effects of bad dyes remedied. Sold by all Chemists and Perfumers of repute, and by the Proprietor, W. Gillingwater, 353 (late 96), Goswell-road. Sent free to any railway station in the kingdom, in cases, 3s. 6d., 5s. 6d., and 10s. 6d. each. Beware of Counterfeits.

HAIR DESTROYER for removing superfluous hair on the face, neck, and arms. This great disfigurement to female beauty is effectually removed by this article, which is easily applied, and certain in effect. In Boxes, with directions for use, 3s. 6d. each. Sent free to any railway station, and may be had of Perfumers and Chemists, and of the proprietor, W. Gillingwater, 353 (late 96), Goswell-road. Beware of Counterfeits.

BALDNESS PREVENTED.—GILLINGWATER'S QUININE POMADE prepared with cantharides restores the hair in all cases of sudden baldness, or bald patches where no visible signs of roots exist, and prevents the hair falling off. In bottles 3s. 6d. and 5s. 6d. each. May be had of all Chemists and Perfumers, and of the proprietor, W. Gillingwater, 353 (late 96), Goswell-road. Sent free to any railway station. Beware of Counterfeits.

KAYE'S WORSDELL'S PILLS.
The BEST REMEDY for GOUT and RHEUMATISM.
Sold by all Chemists, &c., at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 6d. per Box.

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The BEST REMEDY for NERVOUS AFFECTIONS.
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KAYE'S WORSDELL'S PILLS
Have been in constant use for nearly Half a Century, and have met with UNIVERSAL SUCCESS.
Sold by all Chemists, &c., at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 6d. per Box.

INDIGESTION.
NORTON'S CAMOMILE PILLS.
GENTLE APERIENT AND A POWERFUL TONIC.
Sold Everywhere, in Bottles, 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 11s.

KINAHAN'S LL WHISKY
DUBLIN EXHIBITION, 1865.

This celebrated old IRISH WHISKY gained the Dublin Prize Medal. It is pure, mild, mellow, delicious, and very wholesome.

Sold in bottles, 3s. 8d. each, at the retail houses in London; by the agents in the principal towns in England; or wholesale at 8, Great Windmill-street, London, W.

Observe the red seal, pink label, and cork, branded "Kinahan's LL Whisky."

STOVES for Entrance-halls, Schoolrooms, Churches, &c. all made with fire-brick linings, and entirely free from the objections found to so many, which, from their liability to become overheated, are dangerous, and render the atmosphere offensive. These Stoves burn little fuel, may be had with or without open fire, and to burn throughout the cold season, if required, without going out. Illustrated prospectuses forwarded. FREDERICK EDWARDS and SON, No. 49, Great Marlborough-street, Regent-street, W.

THE ROYAL OSBORNE
(PATENT)
MIXTURE OF TEAS,
6lbs. Sent to any part of England carriage free.

Agents wanted in all Towns where there are none appointed
FRANKS, SON and CO., 40, Queen-street, Cannon-street West.

HORNIMAN'S PURE TEA.
All will receive with satisfaction, the announcement that in consequence of the Reduction in Duty, Horniman's pure Teas are in all parts of the kingdom now sold eightpence per pound cheaper. Their Agents,—Chemists, Confectioners, &c.,—in every town, are constantly receiving fresh supplies. The decided preference given during the past quarter of a century to these perfectly Pure Teas, will be evenmore widely extended now the prices are so greatly reduced. Their distinctive superiority has attracted a host of imitators; therefore, as a protection against spurious imitations, every genuine Packet is signed
Horniman & Co.

STARCH MANUFACTURERS
TO H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES.
GLENFIELD PATENT STARCH,
Used in the Royal Laundry
AND AWARDED THE PRIZE MEDAL, 1862.

CONVERTIBLE OTTOMANS
FOR CENTRE OF ROOMS,
To form two Settees and two Easy Chairs, a great improvement on the ordinary ottoman. Only of T. H. FILMER and SON, Easy Chair and Sofa Manufacturers, 31, 32, and 28, Berners-street, Oxford-street; and 34 and 35, Charles-street, Oxford-street, W. An Illustrated Price-list free on application

ROSSETTER'S HAIR RESTORER
Is not a Dye; contains no Oil.
Will restore Grey Hair to its original colour.
Removes Dandruff and all other Impurities from the Head.
Prevents the Hair from falling off.
Promotes the growth and strength of the Hair, giving it the lustre and health of Youth.
Does not injure or soil Ladies' Bonnets or Dress.
And is the best and cheapest Restorative ever used.
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